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THURSDAY, AUGUST 23RD, 2012



Cowbridge In Bloom – judge praises supreme effort, for the full story, please turn to Page 4



Eisteddfod Picture Scrapbook - See pages 20, 21, 26

BACK TO SCHOOL!
ENSURING YOUR CHILDREN HAVE ALL THEY NEED ON THAT FIRST SCHOOL DAY - PAGE 18

BOOK FESTIVAL'S CHARITY BOUNTY!



ABOVE: Stella and Tony Cheeseman present cheques to Lyn Jones (chairman of Noah's Ark Appeal) and Emma Lionel (fundraising officer) and to Dr Tom Jones (chairman for Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research, Cardiff branch) and Michaela James (LLR fundraising manager Wales). SEE FULL STORY ON PAGE 3.

Vale Show goes from strength-to-strength

THE VALE'S foremost rural event went ahead yesterday (Wednesday) as organisers breathed a sigh of relief, as early

REPORT by PHILIP IRWIN

morning dark grey clouds faded away – making it a perfect sunny day for visitors.

All was set fair for the Vale Show, with dry conditions underfoot and a record number of exhibitors and trade stands.

Nevertheless, rain can scar even the best-planned event and, when The GEM spoke to Show Secretary, Nicola Greaves, early in the day, she was still concerned.

She said: "I'm really happy with how things have gone. We are absolutely chock-a-block and have sold out. We just need the rain to keep away."

Later, after the threat of rain lifted, a wander round the huge show

ground confirmed what a celebration of rural life the event has become.

Every aspect of country living was on show, from business, outdoor clothing, hats, tractors, sheep-shearing, craft, livestock and horticulture – everything from cradle to grave (quite literally, as there was even a stall for natural burial in a green field site!).

Because of print deadlines, The GEM was forced to leave just as the smell of hog roasts and lamb burgers was drifting on the breeze, and while local brewers were pouring their pints.

Those who paid their money for a full day's entertainment were definitely the lucky ones!

Local pupils' exam results

TODAY (Thursday, August 23) 16-year-old pupils will be attending their schools – to find out how well they have done in their GCSE examinations.

They will then have a clear idea of whether they want to go on to take A-Levels, a college course, or get a job.

Last week, the Vale's A-Level pupils received their results.

The pass rate remained high – although the number of pupils achieving an A grade fell by 1.7 per cent, the figures were 5.4 per cent above the Welsh average.

For more on last week's A-Level and AS-Level results, please turn to pages 3, 8 and 13.

Cowbridge shop closes

COWBRIDGE has lost a long-established business – with the closure of Room for Living, which was based in the Penny Lane complex of shops.

A notice on the shop window, placed by McAlister & Co, the joint liquidators of Kenbury Ltd, T/A Room for Living, says that stock in the showroom will be auctioned online after a public viewing on September 8.

That online auction will close at 11am on September 12.

FROM OLYMPIC CEREMONY TO MARATHON CHALLENGE

'Exile' runs home – to aid charities

Alex Meredith, who was featured in last week's GEM after he and his brother Rob performed in the Olympics closing ceremony, starts a marathon charity challenge tomorrow (August 24) running from London to Cardiff in four days, finishing at the Wales Millennium Centre!

After 190 miles, he is aiming to finish at around 5pm on Bank Holiday Monday. Alex, who went to Cowbridge Comprehensive School but who now lives and works in London, sees the marathon effort as a way of cementing ties between the Welsh community in London and

by PHILIP IRWIN

those back home.

Alex said: "The concept of the run is quite simple – I want to illustrate the journey that the London Welsh Centre is going to make through its refurbishment towards becoming a premier arts venue – a mini-Wales Millennium Centre.

"Hopefully, it will also show that the biggest Welsh community outside Wales is closer than people imagine.

I am raising funds for the refurb of the centre itself and for Headway in Cardiff. My wife is a speech and language therapist, who works with people with acquired brain injuries and their families.

"Headway is an excellent cause that does not get enough attention. So far, I have raised about £5,000 between the two causes, but I want to push this up to £10,000 by the time I finish!"

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

HIGH STREET SHOP RE-OPENS

GREGGS on Cowbridge High Street reopened yesterday (Wednesday) after having to close last week.

A member of staff told The GEM that the shop had suffered a flood, and the closure had been necessary so that repair work could take place.

Samantha B

Ladies Fashion and Accessories



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Food Banks are a sign of the times

WATCHING a recent television programme brought to mind the dreadful state of our country, and the incompetence (or should I say, negligence) of our politicians in Westminster.

Over the past year, more than 130,000 families have had to rely on Food Banks to feed themselves.

The programme highlighted a young mother with two very young children, whose husband was in the army training. She made sure all her bills were paid, while at the same time struggling to put food on the table.

This young mother always made sure her children were fed, but all she herself had to eat was a bowl of cereal in the morning.

One day she was dropping off her children at playgroup and almost collapsed with exhaustion. The staff at the playgroup contacted a local Food Bank, who provided an emergency food parcel for her.

These Food Banks are doing a fantastic job and without them, how many families would starve? With ever increasing taxes, utility bills and cuts, it can only get worse.

DJ Radford, Barry

'We all want to fly from Rhosee...'

IHAVE read much about the situation at Cardiff 'international' Airport, but a recent letter writer's comments were extraordinary.

The area that Cardiff Airport covers has a catchment of two million people (not a guess on my part, but confirmed by a former mayor of Cardiff, when I queried why so many big retail companies were opening in Cardiff).

I was an airline stewardess flying from Cardiff when it was a thriving and exciting airport – every flight was full to all the holiday resorts on the Continent.

We all in this area want to fly from Cardiff, we don't want to go to

Bristol or Heathrow.

People in the south of the UK have Bristol, Southampton and Exeter to choose from – and I am sure they do not have a bigger population than ourselves.

Business people do want to fly into Cardiff. I met two Spaniards on business at Cardiff University who flew from the Canary Islands to Barcelona and on to Cardiff with Vueling, rather than fly to London – which proves a point.

Cardiff needs to be taken over by the Assembly and made into a thriving and dynamic airport that the people of Wales can be proud of.

Pauline Martin, Penarth.

Victory for the party machines

THROUGH your columns, I would like to thank the small handful of electors who voted for me in the recent town council by-election at Buttrills.

Ian Johnson, a worthy candidate, for Plaid Cymru, was successful for both the Vale and town councils.

I only stood for the latter in the hope, forlorn as it transpired, that I could then have a platform to wage a 'war' to clean-up our town. That fight must now be carried forward by Coun

Johnson. What this election proved irrefutably is that independents – at least in Buttrills – like myself and Mr David Green, stood no chance against the party machines with their many glossy leaflet drops.

Even Mr Green of FocusBARRY (not a party) had the support of such glossy paper propaganda. I did not. So a 'machine' politician triumphed yet again.

Thank you again to those who voted for me. I do not intend to go away and sulk. Christopher Short, Barry.

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THE COLUMN YOU WRITE

Readers' Letters

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We will (in certain circumstances) protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7E OR email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

Eisteddfod thanks The GEM and all Vale residents

ON behalf of the Local Executive Committee of the Vale National Eisteddfod, may I take this opportunity to thank The GEM newspaper and staff for your excellent support over the last 18 months. It is very much appreciated.

We are also very grateful to the residents of the Vale of Glamorgan for their outstanding response in welcoming the National Eisteddfod here for the first time in more than 40 years.

We are immensely proud of the impression the Vale and its people have left on almost 140,000 visitors who came to savour what the area has to offer.

All those involved with organising the

event, felt a huge sense of pride at the constant comments praising the beauty of the area and the warmth and helpfulness of its people.

It has been a challenge meeting the targets set by the Central Eisteddfod Management Board, but because of the support and enthusiasm of the Vale and its people, we have succeeded in leaving the rest of Wales, both Welsh speaking and non-Welsh speaking, singing the praises of an area which is dear to our hearts.

Many, many thanks once again.

Dylan Jones, Cowbridge,
(Chair of the Local Eisteddfod Executive Committee).

'Well done to the Eisteddfod'

I WOULD like to congratulate everybody involved with the success of The National Eisteddfod in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Hundreds of volunteers and fund-raisers carried out fantastic work to put on this huge event, allowing us to enjoy excellent performances from competitors from the Vale, and from across Wales and the world.

The Vale of Glamorgan stand was an excellent mixture of promoting our area through tourism and economic opportunities, with events and fun for the children.

Barry Town Council must also be congratulated on their stall, including the history of the 1920 and 1968 Eisteddfodau in Barry; while Barry Male Voice Choir's Friday afternoon performance was lapped up by an appreciative audience.

Hopefully, our hosting of the Eisteddfod will leave a substantial legacy on many levels – culturally, economically – and in the use of the Welsh language in the Vale.

HÖFFWN i longyfarch pawb oedd yn cysylltiedig gyda llywyddiant Eisteddfod Bro Morgannwg wythnos diwethaf.

'Refuse vultures stalking citizens'

PETER DAVIES of Barry, recently highlighted the problem of rubbish being left in the streets after refuse collections – and our council has recently issued refuse 'vultures' to stand around and swoop on anyone who looks like they are carrying something which they 'might' throw on the floor – over on Barry Island.

I observed them following a smoker for a good 300 yards, just waiting for him to throw

his cigarette butt on the floor. Needless to say, it went in a bin and the 'vulture' looked as if he had been slapped in the face because he wasn't getting his full commission for the day.

Surely, rather than pay someone to stalk local citizens, the money would be better spent on street cleaners, or even more bins?

On a similar subject, Dock View Road recently had new double yellow lines painted – a bit pointless, in a town with no traffic wardens, wouldn't you agree? (Name and address supplied)

BARRY BOXER DID US PROUD!

ON August 3 and August 7, I travelled to London's Excel Arena, to watch Barry boxer Andrew Selby compete in the Olympics. I was lucky to have had tickets for both contests, and what an experience it was!

Our boy from Barry should be proud of his achievement. Having reached the quarter finals of the Olympic Games, 10,000 people were shouting his name and at one point during the first contest, he had the entire crowd on their feet. Something I will

never forget.

Andrew's efforts in the ring, along with his fellow athletes, have without doubt inspired a generation – and thanks to the unifying power of sport, a huge sense of national pride.

I hope to see Andrew compete in Rio de Janeiro in 2016 and pursue his Olympic dream.

Craig Smith, Barry.

Get in touch and let us know what you think about local issues?
gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk
ernet-today.co.uk

IN PRAISE OF LLANDOUGH

I WOULD like to pay tribute to all the doctors, nurses, catering and cleaning staff, and all those people who work at Llandough Hospital, in whatever position.

Having recently spent three weeks in the hospital, I was amazed, touched and impressed with the professionalism of these wonderful people, some from various parts of the world, who cared for us day and night, working shifts of 12 hours at a time.

The food was varied and very good and one, if well enough, always seemed to have a cup of tea or coffee to hand.

It made me realise that we should cherish our National Health Service, and the people who work within it, as they really do save lives.

Brian Lee, Cardiff.

All-party plan for leisure centres

I BELIEVE that it would be helpful if I enlarge on the recent change-over in day-to-day management of the five leisure centres in the Vale, including Penarth and Llantwit Major.

It needs to be made clear that this was an all-party decision agreed on by Conservatives, Labour, Plaid and Independents, although promoted by the Conservatives in the first instance.

For years, it had been recognised that the council did not (and still has not) sufficient capital funds available to modernise the centres to a satisfactory degree required by patrons – the public were quick to point out any defects.

About two years ago, as the Conservative cabinet member with responsibility for, among other services, leisure, I was charged with bringing forward sustainable proposals to bring about new management options for change to the system under which we operated our centres across the Vale.

I chaired a cross-party working group, whose members included Mark Wilson (Labour) of Penarth and Gwyn John (Independent) of Llantwit Major, to assess and quantify the several proposals that we received from leading

industry private sector operators, each of whom was very keen to take on the opportunity of working closely with the council – to benefit the centres' overall management.

Immediately prior to the elections earlier this year, the group unanimously agreed the details of the successful bid (from Parkwood), who have now taken on the management in line with that decision.

It is, therefore, a little ironic, if not par for the course, that the new administration in the Vale steps up to the table to claim credit for the decision to 'Go Private' – however much it might grit in the teeth of some of their colleagues for whom any management options, unless ultimately controlled by a large committee, are usually not even contemplated.

However, in this instance it was a remarkably long-sighted decision by those same working group members that is already bringing immediate benefits to centre users – the people who pay – and who will now benefit from substantial benefits in greatly-improved facilities.

Thus proving that local authorities sometimes make very sensible, and financially satisfactory, decisions.
Coun Anthony Ernest Penarth.

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL AUGUST 30)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
23 Thur	10.54	9.4	23.14	9.2
24 Fri	11.41	8.8		
25 Sat	00.08	8.6	12.43	8.3
26 Sun	01.17	8.1	14.05	8.0
27 Mon	02.45	7.9	15.33	8.0
28 Tues	04.14	8.1	16.51	8.6
29 Wed	05.23	8.8	17.47	9.2
30 Thur	06.11	9.3	18.35	9.7

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.

SCHOOL CELEBRATES ANOTHER YEAR OF A-LEVEL EXCELLENCE

REPORT by PHILIP IRWIN

COWBRIDGE Comprehensive School is celebrating another year of record A-Level results.

The students achieved a 99 per cent pass rate overall with almost half of all of students – a whopping 49 per cent, awarded A*/A grades.

The school was also delighted that the great majority of students – 91 per cent achieved grades A*–C across all subjects studied.

This represents outstanding success, particularly as significant numbers of students have achieved grades way above their predictions, illustrating that the education provided at the school is truly exceptional.

The school's new headteacher, Mrs Debra Thomas, said: "This is an absolutely superb set of results and clearly represents the tremendous effort and commitment put in by our students and staff over these past two years.

"I congratulate the students on their marvellous achievements and would like to wish them all the very best as they move on to university or into employment.

"The results include many wonderful individual achievements, with high numbers of students achieving straight A*/A grades, which has enabled them to take up places at the country's leading universities.

"It is wonderful to think that students will be embarking on courses to prepare them for ambitious career paths which require students who are well rounded, possessing not just academic flair but intellectual curiosity and a keen desire to learn.

"These excellent results should be a source of great pride for the local community. I send my congratulations to everybody."

RIGHT: Natasha Cartwright and mum Jacqueline were delighted with her two A*s and a C, which mean that is off to the University for the Creative Arts, at Farnham.



ABOVE: Fred Bisson had three A*s and an A, and is off to read maths at Warwick University. He is pictured with the new Cowbridge headteacher, Mrs Debra Thomas (left) and Miss Pernnell (assistant headteacher).



ABOVE, left to right: Candy Srinivas (two As and an A*) will be studying law and criminology at Cardiff University; Hywel Hopkin (three As and an A*) is off to Bath University to study natural sciences; Michael Massey (three As and a B) is going to Leicester University to read geology and geophysics; and Max Swann (four As) will be reading geology at Oxford University.



ABOVE (left to right): Kerri Husk (two Bs and a D) is off to start an art foundation course at Bournemouth University; Grace Watt (two Bs and a C) will be studying politics and international relations at the University of Kent; Eleanor Bird (an A and two Bs) will be studying the same course as Kerri, also at Bournemouth University; and Elizabeth Watkins (an A and three Bs) is off to Nottingham University, to study pharmacy.

CHARITIES BENEFIT FROM BOOK FESTIVAL BONANZA



ABOVE: Children's Hospital of Wales patients, from left to right: Macey Chapplin, Gabrielle Pateras, and Thomas Roseburgh, accepted the gift of books from Stella Cheeseman. The children were accompanied by parents and play therapists, Polly Smith and Sian Hulbert

THE Cowbridge Book Festival has been able to give

substantial donations to two popular charities.

Apart from putting on a series of literary events that attracted praise from all quarters, and which increased the profile of the town, there has now been a charitable windfall.

Stella Cheeseman, the organiser of the festival, told THE GEM: "This year, thanks to the support of many authors, publishers, local businesses, volunteers and associations in Cowbridge the festival raised a magnificent £12,500."

The festival's chosen

charities for 2012 are The Noah's Ark Appeal for the Children's Hospital of Wales, and also Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research.

On Wednesday, August 13, representatives from the Cowbridge Book Festival visited the Children's Hospital of Wales to present cheques for £6,100 to each of the two charities.

The festival also donated a wide selection of children's books to the hospital, which caters for patients from

birth to teenagers.

Stella said: "The aim of the Noah's Ark Appeal is to ensure that the hospital has the best resources available so that the children in Wales receive the best care from world-class medical teams, using the most up to date equipment.

"Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research funds ground-breaking research into treatments and cures for all blood cancers."

PHILIP IRWIN

Key holders
KEY holders at St Canna's Church, Llangan, are: Rector's warden, Mrs Jill Rosser, 'The Paddocks', Ystradowen (01446 772481); People's warden, Mrs Ruth Williams, Great House, Treoes (01656 656199); Community link, Mr Dave Reed, Prestwylfa, Llangan (01656 861392).

New units
LLANGAN village now has three glass advertising units, spaced around the village for church and village news.

Warning signs

THERE are new warning signs on the Pencoeed-Pentre Meurig road – one placed near Ruthin Chapel and Ruthin Common, warning of the movement of cattle, etc.

There are also signs

LINE DANCE

A LINE dance disco will be held on Saturday, September 8 at Cowbridge Leisure Centre, from 7pm-11pm, admission £6. All proceeds to the British Heart Foundation. Come and join us – wear something red! Tickets and information from Charles Allen (01446 795875).

COMMUNITY NEWS

TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, "Tynewydd", Llangan. (01656) 860303



on the playing field at Fferm Goch banning horses.

Sergio's squad!

READERS of my weekly news will no doubt remember my story of Sergio, the chef at the Star Inn, Treoes, who was 'kidnapped' by vis-

itors at the annual beer festival! The festival is due to begin on Friday, August 24, so Trish and Clive are taking no chances – armed guards (with water pistols) will be with Sergio for the three days of the festival; so would-be kidnappers beware!

Businesses could earn from group

THE non-profitable business support group in Pontyclun, Pontyclun Business Community Group, provide support and guidance to businesses specifically operating in the CF72 postcode.

Since their launch in February 2011, the group is responsible for generating more than £260,000 worth of local business, thus supporting members and contributing to the local economy.

To benefit from the free support and guidance offered, contact chairman John Enticott on: pontyclunbusinesscommunity@gmail.com.

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COWBRIDGE IN BLOOM JUDGE PRAISES 'SUPREME EFFORT' – *but says there could be more*



Private hanging basket: 38 Westgate.

ON Thursday afternoon, August 9, it was my pleasure to judge 'Cowbridge in Bloom'.

Despite the awful season, the people who made the supreme effort to enhance their homes and businesses are to be congratulated – but there could be more!

Just think how glorious the Olympic Park has looked with inexpensive 'wild flowers' – so it would not cost a lot!

The results were as follows:

Commercial hanging basket: 1st. Duke of Wellington; 2nd. Robert Lloyd (beautiful and different) 3rd. Johnson's Goldsmiths.

Commercial courtyard: Joint 1st. Arthur John, Verity's Court and The Bear Hotel. Both these businesses must be commended for funding stunning displays; 2nd. Farthings. Beautiful compact designs coloured to suit the surroundings.

Commercial frontage: 1st. Basil's. A stunning display at the beginning of the town; 2nd. Jack's Corner. Good to see the upgrade. 3rd. Gibson and Bond. A lovely subtle colour combination.

Private hanging basket: 1st. 38 Westgate. Not really a 'hanging basket' but an attractive effort.

Private frontage: Huge congratulations must go to the owner of 'Wren Cottage', as every year she makes a supreme effort. However, this year I am going to award jointly. 1st. Eastgate House and 8 Riverside Mews; 2nd. 9 Westgate; 3rd. Victoria Cottage.

Private front garden. In my mind, two gardens deserve joint 1st prize, as the effort these people make every year is a joy to behold. 2 Cae Stumpie and 31 Cae Stumpie.

HILARY WEST,
(judge, Cowbridge in Bloom 2012).



Commercial Courtyard: Joint first.
Arthur John, Verity's Court.



Commercial Courtyard:
Joint first. Bear Hotel Courtyard.



Private front garden: Joint first. 2 Cae Stumpie



Commercial hanging basket: First. The Duke of Wellington.



Commercial frontage:
First – Basil's.



Private front garden: Joint first. 31 Cae Stumpie.



Private frontage:
Joint first. 8 Riverside Mews.



Private frontage: Joint first. Eastgate House.

Vale man's long run home to Wales



Alex
Meredith on
a training
run in north
Wales.

(CONTINUED
FROM PAGE 3)

Alex, aged 32, who is chairman of trustees at the London Welsh Centre, said: "The Olympics closing ceremony was an unforgettable experience, and it was a great privilege to perform in it.

"Like many people, I've been inspired by the efforts of our athletes at the Olympics, so am now looking forward to taking on an Olympic challenge of my own.

"I may not be the fastest, but running 200 miles in four days will be at the very limit of my capabilities, which is what the Olympics is all about."

On the night before the run, there will be a 'send-off' event at the London Welsh Centre, featuring the Gwalia Male Voice Choir, supported by Brains.

On day one, Alex will run from London to Reading (45 miles), and day two will be Reading to Swindon (50 miles).

Day three will be through the Cotswolds, from Swindon to Chepstow (50 miles), and day four will be the final leg, from Chepstow to Cardiff, along the new Welsh Coastal Path (45 miles).

The Wales Millennium Centre will host the 'finish line' with red carpet and ribbon, and a reception at Ffresh afterwards.

Alex has been training hard for the last six months and, considering how his first long dis-

tance run went, it is a wonder he is still keen.

He said: "It was a rocky start – I collapsed during the Vienna marathon in 2003 and was treated for exhaustion before finishing the race almost last, in around six hours!"

"I learned my lesson and worked hard to get fit for the Cardiff marathon that same year, posting a much more respectable time of 3:05 (which frustratingly remains my personal best).

"I am still a keen runner, but I do it for fun and my philosophy is slow and sure wins the race (well it certainly does over 200 miles!).

Alex will be updating details on his website, www.londonwelshrun.com

To make a donation, go to www.justgiving.com/londonwelshrun

RNLI lifeguards respond after woman's beach fall

RNLI lifeguards were called to help a woman who had injured her arm after falling off the pebble bank on Southerndown beach on Sunday evening (August 19).

An RNLI spokeswoman said: "The woman, who was in her 60s, had been walking on top of the pebble bank when she slipped and badly injured her left arm.

"A member of the public reported the accident to the charity's lifeguards

who rushed to the location with a trauma bag to assist the lady.

"When the lifeguards arrived at the scene the lady's arm was very swollen and she was complaining of feeling sick.

"The lifeguards assessed her condition and gave her oxygen as they waited for the ambulance to arrive. After receiving oxygen she felt much better, but because her arm was still extremely swollen, the paramedics decided to take her to hospital by ambulance for further tests."

CANADIANS CAN THANK WALES (A BIT) FOR THEIR HISTORIC WIN IN GAMES FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Olympic medallist returns to home town of Cowbridge



Southway staff member Wendy Grant fancies herself as an Olympian of the future!



Helen Stanlake and Ron Pilcher were thrilled to see an Olympic medal up so close.



Rhian with mum Shân and Rhian's grandfather, David Evans, who is trying the bronze medal out for size...

COWBRIDGE can lay claim to an Olympic medallist – even though she competed under the colours of another nation.

Last week, Rhian Wilkinson returned to her former home town, and thrilled residents of Southway Home for the Elderly, including her grandfather, retired farmer David Evans.

Rhian, aged 30, won a bronze medal playing for the Canadian football team which beat France 1-0 in Coventry to claim third place in the tournament.

Rhian has a Welsh mum, Shân, but was born in Quebec – hence her footballing allegiance.

Her father Keith is a former director of the Canadian rugby union team.

When the family

REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN

returned to Wales for a short period of time in the late eighties, Rhian attended Y Bont Faen Primary.

Wendy Grant of Southway told The GEM: "David was overjoyed when Rhian won the bronze medal at the London Olympics for the Canadian women's football team."

"He was even more overjoyed when she popped into Southway with her mum Shân to show off the medal. "Rhian let residents and staff hold and wear the medal which was beautiful and really quite heavy. "At the bottom of the medal it is engraved along the rim as to why a person has won a medal – in this case for the women's football tournament," added Wendy.

'Plans for site must blend with the town'

– SAYS A COUNCILLOR

LAST week, The GEM revealed plans for the Vale Magistrates' Court site in Thompson

Street to be redeveloped.

Newydd Housing Association is proposing a mixed use of retail and flats.

Barry councillor, Dr Ian Johnson, told The GEM that for the proposal to be accepted it would have to blend in with the rest of the town centre and provide adequate car parking.

Dr Johnson said: "Looking to the future, this appears an exciting development, incorporating retail space with housing above – as in St David's 2 in Cardiff."

"These plans nevertheless need to be scrutinised in detail – the size of the complex, the amount of available parking as well as the effect on the rest of the town centre will all need to be put under the microscope."

Dr Johnson added: "It is crucial that anything of this nature is a quality development which will add to the number of shoppers and shopping opportunities in Barry, and not just such opportunities away from elsewhere in town."



Emily realises her Olympic dream...as a Games-maker!

LLANCARFAN resident Emily Renwick (19) was part of London's Olympic Games this summer, volunteering for the equestrian events at Greenwich.

The former Cowbridge Comprehensive School pupil, now studying environmental geography at York University, is a keen badminton and netball player, and enjoyed spending her summer at such a sporty hotspot.

CARDIFF CROWN COURT ROUND-UP by AJ SICLUNA

COURT HEARS OF VIOLENCE IN BAR Royal Navy man escapes jail after headbutt attack

A MEMBER of the Royal Navy who served in the Iraq conflict has been jailed for 32 weeks, suspended for two years, for attacking a man in a bar at Market Street, Barry.

Ross Eason, 29, of Westwood Rise, Barry, had been convicted by Cardiff Magistrates of causing actual bodily harm and had been committed to the Crown Court for sentence.

Eason was also made subject to a supervision order for a year and ordered to carry out 180 hours unpaid work.

In addition, he was made subject to a 16-week curfew from 9pm to 6am, and to be electronically tagged.

Eason was also ordered to pay his victim, Wesley Braithwaite, £600 compensation.

Said Judge Philip Richards: "This was unlawful violence in licensed premises started by you."

"I accept you were not responsible for all the blows inflicted on Mr Braithwaite, and it is right to say you have made a positive contribution to society."

But, he added, Eason was involved in a disgraceful incident and used his head as a weapon.

Prosecutor David Pugh said that on April 21, Mr Braithwaite was in the bar with friends and family celebrating his brother's stag night.

During the evening, some members of Sully Sports RFC arrived to celebrate the end of the season.

At one point, Mr Braithwaite went to look for members of his party and spotted some of the rugby team.

One of them said: "I'll ***ing kill you. What are you looking at?" This was not the defendant, but soon afterwards, after that man was restrained, Eason headbutted Mr Braithwaite, causing him to tumble down a flight of stairs, after which he was further assaulted by two others who have not been arrested.

When arrested, Eason admitted the assault, said he could not give a reason and that he was drunk.

His solicitor, Adam Sharpe, said alcohol appeared to be partly to blame.

"He played a part in a cowardly and nasty attack, acting on the spur of the moment without premeditation. He has made full admissions and was at a loss to explain his actions."

"It was somewhat out of character. He is not predisposed to wanton acts of violence. At the time, his state bordered on being paralytic and his partner is shocked and appalled."

"He will regret this for years to come."

He was said to have convictions for a public order matter and being drunk and disorderly.

Drug dealer escapes jail by 'skin of teeth'

A DRUG dealer who supplied others to finance his own habit, escaped prison "by the skin of his teeth", said Recorder David Aubrey QC at Cardiff Crown Court.

Jordan Prosser (19) unemployed, of Sherbourne Close, Barry, pleaded guilty to possessing cannabis with intent to supply.

He was sent to a young offender institution for nine months, the sentence suspended for two years and made subject to a supervision order for two years and to carry out 150 hours unpaid work.

Said the Recorder: "You must understand, young man, that you are sailing very close to the wind."

He said that people should be disabused of the view that cannabis was a less harmful drug than others.

He warned him: "You escaped prison by the skin of your teeth. Breach these orders and you will go to prison straight away."

Prosecutor John Probert said police executed a search warrant at an address in Barry.

They found 18.3 grams of skunk cannabis and two sets of scales which the defendant accepted were his.

The drug was worth about £220 on the street.

There were a number of mobile phones with requests for drugs.

Prosser accepted that he was supplying others to make a profit to fund his own habit.

Said his solicitor, Adam Sharpe: "He concedes he played a significant role, though the

amount involved was at the lower end for such cases."

"He received 14 texts from people wanting cannabis. He admitted the full facts and did not at all prevaricate. He had been using cannabis since the age of 15. Sadly, he is immature."



See more from Llantwit Major Horticultural Show on page 15.

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Saturday 1 & Sunday 2 September 2012

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THE most recent meet of the Glamorgan Hunt was the Glamorgan Hunt Show on August 19 at Penllyn, near Cowbridge, hosted with the kind permission of Mr and Mrs JGR Homfray.

Competitors and viewers were enthralled by gymkhana and show jumping events, and the photographs, taken by Heather March, show some of the winners in the best leading rein pony class and the mini jumping class.

Other classes on show included mountain and moorland classes, novelty classes and clear round jumping.



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Lions Club outlines late summer events

THE Llantwit Major and Cowbridge Lions Club held a social evening on Thursday August 17, in the garden of Ann and Roger Fry in Boverton.

Between showers, the chain of office was handed over by Byron Evans, the outgoing president, to Harold Jones.

The club was also delighted to officially welcome a new member, Roland Hughes.

The next club events will be free diabetic screening in the Llantwit Major, on Saturday, October 6, and a second hand book sale on the same day, also in Llantwit Major.

If you have any good condition books to donate please call 08458 336763.

This will be closely



New member Roland Hughes is welcomed into the fold!

followed on Saturday, October 13 by the Caldicot Male Voice Choir singing in St Illtud's Church, Llantwit Major. Tickets are now on sale from the same number at only £8 each.

All profits from these fundraising events will, as usual, support local good causes and Lions International charitable works.

JW

Four cadets get taste of life in the RAF

FOUR cadets from 2300 (St Athan) Air Training Corps travelled to RAF High Wycombe for a week-long summer camp.

Corporal Hannah Gaskin, Sergeant Adam Hanley and Cadets James Gaskin and Ellie Bown were joined by cadets from No 1 Welsh Wing ATC; Pontypridd, Cardiff, Merthyr Tydfil, Rumney, Treorchy, Pontyclun and Penarth.

The cadets went to RAF stations such as Halton, Brize Norton and Uxbridge, and looked around lots of old and modern aircraft.

The cadets visited museums, the bunker Winston Churchill spent a lot of his time during the war in, and also choreographed their own

drill routine within their own flights, and performed it in front of the Station Commander, who was very impressed!

Everyone (including staff) took part in a mini 'Cadet Olympics', organised by the RAF Regiment, and included events such as hammer throw, shot-put, discus, javelin, and a game of 'football rounders'.

The cadets completed their swimming proficiency, and also experienced 'high ropes at RAF Halton.

The camp visited Windsor Castle, but unfortunately, Her Majesty was not able to fit in time to see them!

The 'Paper Plate Awards' were as amusing as ever, as each cadet is given an award, for something they did during the week, or a nickname they've been given.

The camp commandant was given the 'Big Kid' award, which proved rather appropriate. Special thanks must be given to Flt Lt Jason Cotter, Warrant Officer Diane Tucker, Sergeant Gareth Ballinger and Civilian Instructor Craig Hilliard; without them, the camp would not be able to have been run.

Congratulations to Cadet Ellie Bown from 2300 St Athan, who was presented with the 'Best Newcomer Award', having only been a cadet for three months, by Corporal Hannah Gaskin.

A spokesman said: "2300 St Athan Squadron are currently recruiting, and if you fancy doing flying, gliding, shooting, sports, adventure training, DofE and much more, contact the squadron on 01446 751062.

"Parade nights are Mondays and Wednesdays, 7pm-9.30pm, boys and girls between 13-18 are welcome. We have all of the facilities on the MoD base, including a flight simulator, accommodation, rifle range, a runway and gyms."



ABOVE; Outgoing president Byron Evans hands over the reins to Harold Jones.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE ORDER, SECTION 16A ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 TALL SHIPS FESTIVAL BARRY WATERFRONT 1st & 2nd SEPTEMBER 2012

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Vale of Glamorgan Council have made an order under Section 16A Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as follows:-

WHEREAS during certain hours of the day and date specified in column 1 of the Schedule hereto the streets or part thereof listed in column 2 of the said schedule will be used for the holding of a relevant event as described in Section 16(A)(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the Council, pursuant to the powers conferred by Section 16A of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 do HEREBY ORDER AND DIRECT in order to facilitate the holding of the event, enable members of the public to watch the said event and to reduce the disruption to traffic likely to be caused by the event, the following regulation shall be observed:-

THAT, except as provided by the order, the said streets or parts thereof shall be closed to all vehicular traffic including pedal cycles with the exception of Emergency Services, Residents and Event Vehicles with Permits, between the hours specified in column 3 of the said schedule. The penalty for infringement of the said regulation is a fine not exceeding £1000.00.

SCHEDULE		
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Saturday 1st September 2012 to Sunday 2nd September 2012	Y Rhodfa to be closed from its westernmost cul-de-sac section adjacent to the open land (to the south of Morrisons Superstore) east to a point adjacent to No 33 Jackson's Quay and north to the roundabout at Ffordd Y Mileniwm.	07.00hrs on Saturday 1st September 2012 to 22.00hrs on Sunday 2nd September 2012

Dated this 23rd August 2012

M. E. Punter, Head of Visible Services & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council
The Alps Wenvoe CF5 6AA

Barry Waterfront Tall Ship Festival

Saturday 1 & Sunday 2 September 2012

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Sunday's line-up includes - Big Mac's Wholly Soul Band, Wonderbrass and Blues Central.

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VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

Vale launches war on local potholes with a 'Big Fill' campaign

THERE is nothing local motorists hate more than the dreaded pothole - and the shudder through their car's suspension as it hits a damaged section of road.

REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN

In recent years, The GEM has received numerous letters from people highlighting the deterioration of local roads.

Now, the Vale Council plans to launch a 'Big Fill' campaign which it hopes will begin to eradicate the scourge of potholes.

Residents of particular areas of the Vale will be given the chance to report rogue potholes where they live, and have them dealt with over weekends.

The Vale Council Leader, Coun Neil Moore told The GEM that the idea would be to leaflet people and give them the chance to report damage to their local roads.

He explained: "The campaign will involve informing people with a flyer that we are coming to their area on a certain weekend.

"They can advise us of

potholes that need to be dealt with.

"We will be concentrating on specific areas in wards, rather than a whole ward."

Coun Moore emphasised that there may be certain 'road works' which might be reported which could not be dealt with by council workers over the limited period of a weekend, but council workers would endeavour to resolve whatever was practical.

Council workers will also knock on residents' doors in the chosen area to find out whether people are concerned about damage to nearby roads.

The council will then be able to judge whether leafleting or a direct conversation is the best method of getting information from local people.

Council up for award

THE Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE) has announced that the Vale Council's recycling You Tube videos, which were made on a budget of just £40, have been selected as a finalist in a national competition.

The videos joined the APSE finalists in the information technology and communication category. The winner will be announced at a ceremony in Glasgow on September 13.

Litter and dog fouling: 76 fined

LOCAL authority support company XFOR issued 76 Fixed Penalty Notices for dog fouling and littering offences in the Vale in the week commencing August 6.

XFOR have been tasked by the Vale Council to help tackle dog fouling and littering incidents in the Vale.

They are taking a 'zero tolerance' approach to environmental crimes, where offenders will be issued with a fixed penalty notice of £75 without warning.

Fixed Penalty Notice offences specifically relate to the Environmental Protection Act (1990), Fouling of Land Act (1996) and Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (2005).

To find out more either follow the council on Twitter:

@VOCCouncil or via Facebook: Vale of Glamorgan Life. Alternatively, phone 01446 700111; email visible@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or visit the council's website at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/recycle

Thief attacked driver and stole his Mini Cooper

THE manager of a Bridgend opticians was devastated after a man robbed him in the street of his turbo-charged Mini Cooper.

Cardiff Crown Court heard that the vehicle was the pride and joy of David Williams and, so severe was the effect of the crime, he no longer drives.

Scott Pinches (24) of Danybryn, Gilfach Goch, admitted a charge of robbery.

He was given an extended sentence of five years involving three-and-a-half years in custody and put on licence for a further 18 months.

Prosecutor James Wilson said that on June 27, 22-year-old Mr Williams returned to his car after working in the shop and noticed that the windscreen wipers were up. He thought someone was jacking.

Pinches appeared, demanded the ignition keys and struck Mr Williams to the left side of the head with a heavy length of wood,

REPORT by AJ SICLUNA

before trying to push him over.

Pinches shouted: "I'm going to kill you if you don't give me the keys."

Mr Williams did so, as he believed he could have been seriously hurt.

Pinches calmly got into the car and drove off.

Someone nearby identified Pinches as being responsible. Mr Williams suffered swellings to the side of his head.

Later that evening, said Mr Wilson, Pinches flagged down a police car and said: "It was me." The weapon was in the vehicle's footwell.

He confessed he had been walking around Bridgend looking for a car to take.

Mr Williams later stated that he has become worried since the attack after being normally a confident person.

He also stated: "I no longer feel like going

out at night."

He said that when he sat in the car when it was recovered, he felt he could smell the defendant.

The incident, he added, had affected his work and his family.

"My whole life has changed as a result of what happened," he said.

Pinches was said to have convictions for robbery, assaulting a paramedic and a delivery man, and possessing a bladed article.

His counsel, Jeremy Jenkins, said: "A report indicates he is at risk of reoffending and causing serious harm."

"He is somewhat immature. He showed remorse."

Judge Eleri Rhys said Pinches understood the impact of what he did had had a devastating effect on Mr Williams, who no longer drives.

"You clearly have difficulties controlling your emotions," she said.

PACT meetings

WENVOE coffee and chat meeting, August 23 at Cottrell Park Golf Club at 11am.

ILLTYD PACT, August 29, the Mount Sorrel Hotel at 7pm.

ST ATHAN PACT, September 2 at The Gathering Place at 2pm.

PLYMOUTH PACT, September 5 at Lower Penarth Community Centre, Brockhill Way at 7pm.

CCTV aids four arrests

FOUR people were arrested and one missing person was found in the last week, thanks to CCTV monitoring in Barry.

Police were contacted on 33 occasions by CCTV operators from the Vale Council during the week ending August 19.

One person was arrested concerning an offensive weapon on August 14 and on August 15, CCTV operators helped police find a missing person in Barry.

Police arrested one person for alleged theft on August 15 and another two arrests involving theft were made in Barry on August 17.

Vale schools above the Welsh average

THE Vale Council said this week it was "delighted" to see the A-level pass rates in its schools have remained at a high level.

Compared to last year, the number of pupils achieving an A grade is 1.7 per cent lower but 5.4 per cent above the Welsh average.

There has been an increase of 3.8 per cent in pupils who have achieved A*-C grades which is 1.2 per cent above the Welsh average and overall 97.1 per cent of all entries resulted in a pass, which is the same as last year.

In AS-level, compared to last year, there has been a decrease of 4.2 per cent in pupils achieving an A grade.

There was a 6.9 per cent decrease in pupils who achieved A-C grades.

Overall, 85.6 per cent of all entries resulted in a pass - a decrease of 5.8 per cent compared to last year.

However, these figures do not include results for the Welsh baccalaureate.

The Vale of cabinet member for children's services, Coun Chris Elmore, said: "Our schools and pupils have delivered very good results at A-level and maintained our high standards."

"I wish all the pupils who completed their studies this year continued success for the future and I'm sure many will go on to achieve great things."

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VALE GETS SET TO HOST INTERNATIONAL SHEEPDOG TRIALS

THE Olympics may be over in London, but come September in the Vale, there will be a chance to see a different set of fine athletes going through their paces!

The International Sheepdog Trials, the biggest event of its kind in the world, takes place in Bonvilston over three days from September 6, and involves around 80 of the finest sheepdogs from the four home countries of the UK –

and their splendid handlers! Thousands of visitors from all over the world are expected to attend.

The £100,000 three-day event at Redlands Farm will feature the top 15 dogs from each of the four home nations, plus reserves.

There will also be a young handler competition and an International Brace Championship.

This year's event features a food and country festival and has Welsh Government First Minister Carwyn Jones as president.

The impressive list of sponsors includes the Welsh Government, the Vale Council, Tesco, and Gilbertson and Page. The three-day spectacle will culminate with the crowning of a new supreme champion.

The Welsh team will be led by Pentrefaelas farmer Arthur Roberts and his dog, Chip. Arthur has only missed one international since 1974, when he was best man at a friend's wedding.

He started trialling at the age of 16 and is continuing a family tradition. He is the third generation of his family

to compete, since his father and grandfather were triallers, with his own son, Eilir, following on, and daughter Catrin, a psychology lecturer, also very involved.

Arthur added that Catrin brings the pups on when her work as a psychology lecturer with Coleg Meirion Dwyfor, Dolgellau, allows; and he feels that psychology is an important element of working with the dogs, and in understanding what motivates and pleases them.

He said: "My father, Merddin Roberts, judged the Welsh National twice and he passed on the skill to me. It's in the blood on both sides, though, as an uncle on my mother's side – Price Evans of Betws Gwerfyl Goch – trialled a lot."

"My son is also very interested. It was he who brought me back into it because he started trialling three or four years ago."

"I was in the Welsh team last year, with a different dog, Bill. This year I'll be with Chip. He's four years old, but not that experienced."

He's been a slow developer.

"It's an honour to lead Wales, and unexpected. It's a combination of having the right dog and things working in our favour. There is an element of good fortune for everything to come together."

"It's very enjoyable and I'm really looking forward to it and to visiting the Vale."

He added: "I most definitely wouldn't be able to manage my sheep without dogs. I depend on them."

NOTE: The original objective of the International Sheep Dog Society (ISDS) is to secure the better management of stock by improving the shepherd's dog remains.

The society was founded in 1906 in Haddington, East Lothian (Scotland), with the intention of stimulating interest in the shepherd and his/her calling. The International Sheep Dog Trial has been held annually since 1906, with the exception of the war years (1915-1918 and 1939-1945), and 2001 (Foot and Mouth Disease).

Half-Taff challenge

CYCLING 26 miles would obviously be a mere warm-up for people like Bradley Wiggins and others who take part in this currently popular sport – but for those who have only recently been inspired by the success of Team GB, it provides a very good opportunity to try it out.

The Ty Hafan Half-Taff challenge, taking place on Sunday, September 2, is a comparatively gentle route, much of it off-road, starting at Rhydyccar Leisure Centre in Merthyr Tydfil and passing through some beautiful countryside and the leafy suburbs of Cardiff before finishing in the Bay.

It's the perfect opportunity to join your friends, family or work colleagues to either set yourselves a challenge to achieve a personal best time to complete the route, or just simply take it easier and enjoy the surroundings.

Last year, more than 130 cyclists took on the challenge and arrived in Cardiff Bay to a heroes' welcome.

Sali Thomas from Ty Hafan said: "The Taff Trail Cycle Challenge is always a popular event and the shorter route,



ABOVE: A great day out...

starting from Merthyr, gives a chance for families or those who take cycling less seriously to take part."

To sign up, visit: www.thetafftrail.co.uk, or call 02920 672060.

Registration for the event is £40 per team with each team raising a minimum of £250 in sponsorship, which will ensure Ty Hafan continues to provide care and support to the young-

sters and their families who access its services. Team members must be over 13 years old and any cyclists who are under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

Ty Hafan is also looking for volunteers to help out at the event by being a marshal. If you are interested in getting involved then you can find out more using the same contact details.

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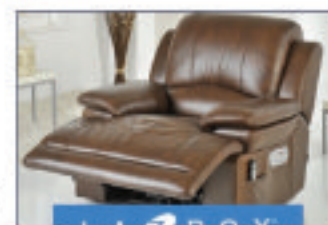


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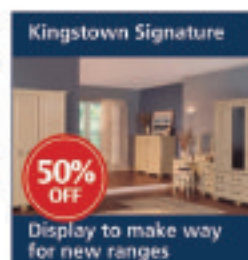
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YOUNGSTERS' STAR SPOT AT THE EISTEDDFOD

PICTURED HERE ARE young Children of Ysgol Sant Baruc's Nursery and Reception who were given the chance to sing at the Eisteddfod together with six other schools from the area on August 4. "They brought the house down with their performance and I can say as they went on last they did save the best 'til last! They were FAB. The children and teachers worked very hard," a spokeswoman reported.

Be a beach buddy and join coastal clean-up!



Local residents are being urged to get involved in cleaning up the beaches this September.

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Computer cramming

STUDENTS at Atlantic College are offering one-to-one tuition for people aged 60+ who are interested in learning basic computer skills – including sending emails, creating word documents, surfing the net, online shopping.

Sessions are on Tuesdays, 2.15pm-3.30pm starting on September 18 in Atlantic College, St Donat's Castle.

Anyone interested should telephone Lorraine on 01446 799000.

FROM syringes to ceramics, plasters to panty-liners, fishing lines to fence posts and plastics to push-bikes – they have all been found on Welsh beaches.

The Marine Conservation Society (MCS), the UK charity dedicated to protecting our seas, shores and wildlife, says it needs beach lovers across Wales to help get the issue on the political agenda.

This year's 'MCS Beachwatch Big Weekend' takes place on September 14-17, and will involve hundreds of volunteers taking to the beaches around the Welsh coast.

During the event, volunteer litter pickers will clean up and record the rubbish they find, as part of the International Coastal Cleanup, which takes place in more than 100 countries and regions worldwide.

The data collected will help MCS shape its

beach litter campaign in Wales and keep up pressure on the Welsh Government to act to reduce the amount of rubbish that blights Welsh beaches.

"As a charity, we rely heavily on volunteer support either at events, or financially," says MCS Wales Programme Manager, Gill Bell. "Beachwatch is a great way for our supporters to get hands-on and really make a difference."

"We'd like to see more people out on beaches this year and more beaches cleaned. The Olympics seem to have slowed down the

registration of both beach organisers and volunteers, now it's all over, we're urging people to sign up and make this the biggest and best year for Beachwatch in Wales.

"However, if people can't make it to a beach they can always donate, or become a member, to ensure this type of event continues and we can all do our bit to reduce beach litter."

To get involved in Beachwatch Big Weekend 2012, and be part of the fight against marine litter, visit: www.mcsuk.org/beachwatch, or call: 01989 566017.

Vale Council plea on 'safe disposal' of sharp items

SHARP items, such as old knives and broken glass, should be disposed of safely, residents have been warned.

Following a recent incident where knives were found in a torn bin bag, the Vale Council is urging residents to take care, should they have no alternative but to add sharp items to their rubbish.

Old kitchen knives should be wrapped up in old newspaper and taped up before being binned, or taken to the Vale's recycling centres in Llandow and Barry.

Clifford Parish, operational manager for waste management and cleansing, said: "Knives

were recently left out by a member of the public, which is clearly a danger to other members of the public and the crew handling bags. Luckily, no harm was done.

"Safety is paramount to our service. We respectfully ask members of the public to dispose of any items such as knives or broken glass, in the safest way they can."

"If residents decide to wrap up sharp items and take them to one of our recycling centres, they need to inform a member of staff on arrival."

For more information, visit: www.vale-of-glamorgan.gov.uk/recycle.

Dressing up for success

CHWARAE TEG, the body which promotes the role of women in the Welsh workforce, and Welsh cancer charity Tenovus, are launching their Dress to Progress campaign.

This calls upon women to donate any smart office wear they no longer use, so it can be sold by Tenovus to other women eager to advance at work.

The campaign aims to help women climb the



Newly-promoted assistant manager Stacey Rees, from Porthcawl, is looking for new clothes to help women make a professional impression.

career ladder, while also supporting cancer patients and their families.

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GUILD MEETING

THE next meeting of the Glamorgan Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers is on Thursday, September 13, in Kynance Hall, Dinas Powys, at 7.30pm.

There will be a talk by Elen Phillips, a general introduction to the costume and textile collection at St Fagans. Members £2, visitors £5.

For further details, telephone Kirsten Gable on 01443 650336 or email kirstengable@gmail.com.

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'Hard graft' is rewarded at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg



LEFT to RIGHT – Morgan Fogg, Matthew Gupta, Caleb Rowlands and Einan Scott.



LEFT to RIGHT – Bronwen Harries (two As, B), Robbie Donovan (two Bs, C) and Eleni Morus (two As, B). All achieved their Welsh Bacc and are off to their first choice universities.



Mia Sands (left) and Siwan Clark (right) (two A*s, two As). Siwan is now Oxford bound.

THERE were smiles all around at Ysgol Bro Morgannwg on August 16 as pupils, staff and parents were once more able to celebrate an excellent set of A-Level results.

A spokeswoman said: "We are delighted that 83 per cent of the grades are C or above, with 46 per cent being A or A*."

"Leading a group of nine pupils who attained straight A* and A grades are Rhys George from Penarth (three A* grades and the Welsh Bacc), who will study medicine at Southampton, and Oxford-bound Siwan Clark, also from Penarth, who attained two A* and two A grades.

"As we applaud our highest achievers, we are very pleased that all pupils have achieved their potential and that their hard graft has been rewarded."

"Pupils have excelled in traditional academic subjects and also in vocational qualifications."

"The Welsh Bacc continues to be a resounding success, with each pupil benefiting from developing an array of skills."

"Congratulations go to all pupils and staff, and we wish the pupils every success in the future as they embark on careers, or further their education at universities and colleges far and wide."



Bethan Parker (left) and Chloe Chick (right).



LEFT to RIGHT – Molly Jenkins, Jocelyn Jeffery, Natalie Evans, Bethan Williams, Rachel Pursall and Bethan Pursall – all achieved three A Levels A*-C and the Welsh Bacc.



Harriet Vaughan (left, A*, two As) and Nel Roberts (right, two As, C).



LEFT to RIGHT – Zak Deere (two As, B), Rhys George (three A*s), Oliver Harrison (three As) and Richard Pilcher (three As). All achieved their Welsh Bacc and are off to study medicine.

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Local boy tackles Brecon Beacons in wheelchair to earn DoE award

by LEIGH GRUFFYDD SANDERS



James Yorke-Wade, accompanied by friends from the Barry air cadets, tackling a 32km trek over the Brecon Beacons in his unadapted wheelchair towards his Duke of Edinburgh gold award.

FOR most people, completing the physical aspect of the Duke of Edinburgh award is a tough task, but Flemingstone resident James Yorke-Wade is showing others just how to do it, as he completes his gold award.

The 25-year-old former Ysgol Sant Curig, Barry, pupil has cerebral palsy, but that hasn't stopped him tackling the 32km trek over the Brecon Beacons – in his wheelchair – to add to his many other achievements.

Splitting the task over four days, James aimed to do eight km per day, usually taking eight hours to complete each session.

Accompanied by his friends from the Barry branch of the Air Cadets, he has excelled already, and managed 10km over four and a half hours last Sunday (August 19), with only a 30-minute break, to leave him ahead of schedule.

He now aims to finish his task over the weekend of September 1-2.

Sister Emily Yorke-Wade (20) told The GEM of the family's pride at James' achieve-

ments despite his limitations.

She said: "James is a very unique case, there are no words to describe him. He went through mainstream schools and speaks five languages (English, Welsh, German, French and Spanish), he can learn the basic greetings and numbers in an hour."

He graduated with a 2:1 in German and French from Swansea University and his studies haven't stopped there.

"He is taking a diploma in Spanish and was given one of the Harry Potter books in Spanish for Christmas."

"He is reading it already!"

He also watches French films with German subtitles underneath, or vice versa."

As well as cerebral palsy, James also suffers with hydrocephalus and incomplete lung capacity. Having spent a total of seven years of his life in the Great Ormond Street Hospital, he has had 30 operations (and counting) and undergoes regular botox on his legs to help straighten them.

His balance is also affected, and his wheelchair is not adapted in any way, making it even more difficult to complete his mountain trek.

He was also knocked back after catching pneumonia in December 2010 and moving in and out of hospital for six months, taking 18 months to fully recover.

Doctors told the family that he probably wouldn't be able to come home, and that even if he did, he would need an oxygen supply.

Yet he now finds himself as a civilian instructor for the Barry cadets, among his many other activities.

Emily continued: "James is absolutely amazing. My boyfriend, who is in the RAF, tried to propel his wheelchair up one of the hills in Flemingstone with his arms, and couldn't manage it, but James could."

And she hopes that James' time with the air cadets helps him to continue to progress in his social life.

She added: "The squadron leader, Jason Horton, always believed in James and pushes him to keep going."

"He just wants to be 'normal' and get a job, but he can't get a five-day-a-week job because of his illness. This will, hopefully, build his confidence."

WORSHIP SERVICE
THE two churches of Bonvilston (St Mary's and Zoar) are holding a 'back to church – all age worship service,' in the Reading Room, Bonvilston, on Sunday, September 9 (3pm-4pm). It will be led by Rev Adelaide Wheeler Cocks and Rev Dr Hmar Sangkhuma, and there will be music and refreshments. Everybody welcome. Contact 01446 781309 or 01446 781866.

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Quality of produce delights the judges at the annual Llantwit Major Horticultural Show

AFTER the wettest May, June and July on record, Llantwit Major Horticultural Society's Annual Vegetable and Flower Show took place successfully in the town on Saturday, August 18.

Chairman Mr Bill Lee was disappointed that entries were down on last year, but judges Mr Dennis Barry and Mr Geoff Evans were pleased to announce that the quality of the exhibits were to the highest standard.

They were amazed that the keen gardeners of Llantwit Major had produced such wonderful fruit, flowers and vegetables in such difficult growing conditions.

Best in show was awarded to Mr Gordon Beech with a beautiful display of Gladioli that would not have been out of place at Chelsea, and Mr Barry said that Charles Maisey's cucumbers, which won



the National Vegetable Society's Medal, were truly excellent.

Of the new entrants, Mr Neil Wallace won the Eleanor Lloyd Memorial Trophy for the best allotment, and Mr Tony Meakins won the Keith and Jean Powell Shield for the best display of fruit.

The Llantwit Major Town Council Cup, for best vegetables, was won by Mr Allan Johanson, who also won the Royal Horticultural Society's Banksian Medal.

The upset of the day was that Mr William Aspinall won the Llantwit Major First Independents Cup for the home baking section,

much to the surprise of the women entrants. But all agreed that his boiled fruit cake was delicious.

Prizes were presented by Mr Clive Smith, group manager of RWE NPower, representing the horticultural society's main sponsor, Aberthaw Power Station.

A pleasant afternoon was enjoyed by all entrants and visitors alike, and the society hoped that the quality of the fruit and vegetables on show would inspire more entrants next year.

Terry Plenty,
Acting show
secretary

Magical music

A MAGICAL music concert in aid of Barnardo's Cymru will take place at The Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl, on Sunday, September 16, beginning at 7.30pm.

Music includes themes from The Dam Busters, James Bond, ET, Mack and Mabel, The Beatles, and many more. Tickets: £12 (concessions available), from the box office: 01656 815995 or from: www.grandpavilion.co.uk.

PHOTOGRAPH by
ANDY WICKS



Charles Maisey, winner of the National Vegetable Society medal, with Clive Smith.



Allan Johanson (with his trophies) and Clive Smith.

Gastro Alfresco winners

THE winners of our recent Gastro Alfresco competition were Esme Spencer, Porthcawl; Pamela Bevington, Bridgend; Laura McGreevy, Llanmaes; Tracey Govier, Rhosneigr; and Mrs P Martin, Pontyclun.

Congratulations to you all, and keep reading for more great GEM competitions!

REAPING THE BENEFITS...

WALES Audit Office has recognised the Vale Council's performance in an assessment of housing and council tax benefit administration.

Five areas of performance formed the focus of the assessment: claims; administration, security, customer focus, resource management and outcomes for service users.

"The WAO made no recommendations for improvement and noted that the service provided in the Vale was above average for Wales in all of the key areas," a spokeswoman said.

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ages."

Lynne added: "All
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stead for the tasks
which are involved on a
day-to-day basis."

"Pitman Training
gave me the chance to
pick myself out of a job
rut and really go after
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"Opportunities like
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were invaluable at inter-
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me to stand out from the
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Bridgend College celebrates record examination results

BRIDGEND College is
thrilled to announce
that 139 students have
achieved grades equivalent to
three A-Levels at grade A or
above this year.

A college spokeswoman said:
"This exceeds the college's personal
best of 134 for the academic year
2010/11."

"A total of 128 (34 per cent) stu-
dents achieved triple distinction pro-
files in their Level 3 Extended
Diploma programme, with 38 stu-
dents achieving an incredible
D*D*D* portfolio, the equivalent to
three A* grades at A level and worth
a fantastic 420 UCAS points.

"In addition, eight students study-

ing the CACHE Level 3 Diploma in
Childcare and Education achieved
grade As, and three BTEC Level 3
Foundation Diploma students in Art
and Design also gained the highest
award possible.

Mark Jones, the principal of
Bridgend College, said: "The contin-
ued growth in the number of students
achieving the highest possible grades
at level 3 is testament to the high
quality teaching and learning offered
across all of our academic areas."

"Our warmest congratulations to
all of the students who, with these
highly-recognised vocational quali-
fications, can take the first step onto
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tinue their studies at Higher
Education level."

GCSE results this August?...

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Students reminded of their A-Level data protection rights

THE Office of the Information Commissioners (ICO) has reminded students in Wales of their information rights concerning this year's A-Level results.

Under the Data Protection Act, students can see information held about them, such as a breakdown of their marks, by making a subject access request to the examination body.

Anne Jones, assistant commissioner for Wales,

said: "Results day can be an exciting time for many students; however, it can also be a time of great stress for those who don't get the marks they require."

"That is why we are reminding students that they have a right under the Data Protection Act to see information held about how their marks were arrived at, before deciding whether to re-sit an exam or pursue a particular subject at college or university."

"Having access to information – such as a breakdown of their overall mark and examiners' comments – may not lead to their grades being altered, but it could help them understand the process and make important decisions about their future."

"We are keen to provide advice to students on submitting their request and have published guidance on our

website. If examination bodies fail in their legal duty to respond, then students can bring a complaint to the ICO."

Under the Act, individuals have the right to request the information that an organisation holds about them – known as a subject access request. Once a request is received, an

organisation generally has 40 days to respond. In the case of exam results, exam bodies must respond within 40 days from the date the results were published, or within five months of the request being received – whichever of the two is the earliest.

The ICO's guidance – 'Individuals' rights of access to examination records' – outlines how people can access more general information about college or university policies or procedures.

This guidance can be found at: http://www.ico.gov.uk/for_the_public/topic_specific_guides/schools/exam_results.aspx.

AS the GCSE results come out, it certainly seems like it's make or break time for south Wales students, as further study and career opportunities very much depend on exam outcomes.

It's fantastic news if

your child gets the results he or she needs, but the world can seem a pessimistic place for those who've missed their vital target grades, with re-sits now a further barrier to chosen college courses.

At this time, it's important to realise that though initially disappointing, this isn't always a bad thing: an extra year of study for

many means A-Levels are taken when the student is slightly more mature – and therefore more able to cope with the demands of higher-level courses.

It's vital that students approach re-sits with confidence and an assurance that great grades can be achieved – and a knowledge that a great future lies ahead!

Personal tutors can help re-build this confidence and work with students to focus knowledge on key facts and areas of learning, and can work on eliminating misunderstandings and 'bad habits' which may well have cost vital marks first time round.

Exam practice, reviewing papers and studying mark schemes, plus a 'back to basics' approach when dealing with particularly tricky topics, are just some of the things personal tutors can do to help!

Chris Williams

Busy time for student helpline

A STUDENT advice service, the Exam Results Helpline (ERH), has handled thousands of calls since A-Level results day and is bracing for another surge on GCSE day today (Thursday).

The 40 experts who make up the helpline on 0808 100 8000, are a lifeline for students whose grades are higher or lower than expected, and need to rethink their futures.

The helpline is independent and free, and is funded by the Department for Education. It opened on August 16 and runs until August 25.

ERH advisors, who answered 11,000 calls last year, say most questions are about re-sits, re-marks, university or college courses, apprenticeships, NVQs, HNDs, diplomas, finding employment, setting up in business, moving away from home and gap years.

Each is fully trained with at least five years' experience as a professional careers advisor.

Calls are free from landlines but charges vary from mobile phones or other networks.

More information can be found on the ERH website: www.ucas.com/examresults-helpline.

Careers advisor Sarah Bull said: "The main message we are giving to students is

that if they haven't or don't get the results they expected, don't get stressed.

"Get plenty of information by talking to us, your teachers, or school careers adviser and don't rush into anything."

"Take your time before deciding what to do next."

"It's particularly important that students get good advice about the range of options available to them after GCSEs."

"Taking A-levels is not for everyone."

"It may be that an apprenticeship or a BTEC is a much more suitable option – giving the opportunity to gain employability skills, achieve a qualification and potentially earn a wage at the same time."

"The bottom line is that each student must decide what is right for them."

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Wednesday 29th August

Come to this if you are: Full-time students offered a reserve place* or part-time students who have already applied.

Thursday 30th and Friday 31st August

Open enrolment on a first-come first-served basis, for any courses with spaces.*

Tuesday 4th September

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Visit our website for info on where to enrol and how to find courses with spaces:
www.cavc.ac.uk/enrolment
Tel: 030 30 30 10 10

*except for Knowledge engineering students.



YMRSTRU O AWST 23ain

Ymrestru yng Ngholeg Caerdydd a'r Fro

Dydd Iau a dydd Gwener Awst 23ain a 24ain

Dewch yma os ydych yn: Fyfu'nwr amser llawn sydd wedi eich cyfieidd ac wedi cael lle eisoes.*

Dydd Mercher Awst 29ain

Dewch yma os ydych yn: Fyfu'nwr amser llawn sydd wedi cael cynig lle yn eiddod neu'n fyfu'nwr rhan-amser sydd wedi gwneud cais eisoes.

Dydd Iau a dydd Gwener Awst 30ain a 31ain

Ymrestru agored ar sail y cyntaf i'r ffaith... ar unrhyw gyrsiau sydd â lleoedd gwag.*

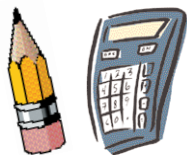
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Back to School...

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE



HELPING CHILDREN FOCUS ON A BRIGHT NEW FUTURE

Poor eyesight can have a significant effect on children's ability to learn and on their behaviour – yet often goes unrecognised by teachers, parents and by children

themselves. Over a million children will return to school with poor vision!

A free sight test may give every child the ability to see clearly, learn effectively and fulfill their career aspirations.

Up to one million children in the UK cur-

rently have an undetected vision problem. (Statistics provided by the Eyecare Trust and based on DCSF 2009 School Census 0-12 year olds).

Research shows that around 20 per cent of school-aged children have an undiagnosed vision problem – that's

one in five children. (Professor David Thomson, City University, London).

Over 90 per cent of children visit a dentist regularly, while only 53 per cent of children have ever had an eye examination. (Johnson & Johnson, Vision Care Survey 2009).

A total of 84 per cent of parents agree that improved vision would have a positive impact on their child's performance at school.

(Johnson & Johnson Vision Care Survey 2009).

At Jones & Jones, proper sight test is free for all children under the age of 16. Why not book an appointment for your children today?

For appointments, ring 01446 400015, or visit us online at www.jonesandjones.org.uk.

Ensuring your children have all they need on that first school day

Every child's worst nightmare is turning up to a new school on that first day and realising that they've left their PE kit or a vital piece of school uniform back at home.

Even worse, they might not have it at all. Every parent is currently rushing around, ensuring that their children have all the required essentials before the new school term starts at the beginning of September.

But while people are out and about making sure that they get the best deals when kitting children out, it's worth visiting local stockists right on their doorstep.

When looking for new school shoes for a child's ever-growing feet, Ogam Igam in Penarth, could be the answer to all your podiatric needs.

Situated at 5 Royal Buildings (just next to the train station), they

stock a range of quality brands and styles. You can also take advantage of their professional fitting service to ensure your child gets exactly the right comfort for trekking around their new surroundings searching for the science laboratories!

Their 'Foot in the Door' club offers you the chance of a five per cent credit return on purchases, and the chance to be entered into a prize draw for a £200 voucher to spend in store.

If their old pair needs patching up, why not head down to Frangoulis at 2 Windsor Arcade, Penarth, or 4 Thompson Street, Barry?

Here they undertake all types of shoe repairs.

Alternatively, they offer an expert key engraving service to ensure your child can access the family home on their return from school, while they also provide a full range of leather wallets and purses to keep their dinner money safe.

But school isn't just about the written word. With an increasing reliance on computers, TL Computer Services,

Wales, at 40 Holton Road, Barry, offer a full range of PCs and laptops, and also a full range of repairs and services on existing models.

And if your child is

heading out on the road to musical superstardom, give them a kick-start with classic and contemporary instruments from JPL The Barry Music Shop on Holton Road.

JONES & JONES OPTOMETRISTS

see AHEAD

When I grow up...

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RUCKLEYS – Barry's specialists in official school uniforms

RUCKLEYS, the uniform specialist in Barry, is going from strength-to-strength.

As well as stocking the usual school uniform basics, such as socks, trousers, skirts, pinafores, gym kits, cardigans, hair accessories and coats, they now stock a large proportion of local schools' official uniforms.

These schools include: St Helen's,

Sant Curig, Barry Island, Oakfield, Rhws, Barry Comprehensive and Barry sixth form and Cadroxton.

It has a changing room and is conveniently open seven days a week, also offering an easy-plan uniform club to help save for the back-to-school period.

As usual, its Start-rite shoes are proving popular, probably due to the fact that they are full leather, available in half sizes and with a width fitting too. There is also a schoolwear guarantee.

Call in now, Monday to Saturday, from 9.30am-5.30pm and on Sunday from 11am-3pm.

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Ceremony puts Eisteddfod in touch with its ancient history



The procession, and the placing of the clay figures on the mound.

ONE event at this year's Eisteddfod at Llandow was designed to make a connection with the Vale's ancient history – 4,000 years ago, and well before the era traditionally celebrated at the cultural festival.

The event focused on Llandow and Llanmaes, and aimed to evoke the spirit of the early Bronze Age people who lived in the area.

Jackie Simpson, of Llanmaes Community Council told The GEM about the event and explained: "More than 4,000 years ago on sacred ground, events that celebrated rituals of life and death were played out in what is now the Vale of Glamorgan."

"We know this from the 1939/1940 archaeological excavations of Sir Cyril Fox, then director of the National Museum of Wales, who recorded early Bronze Age burial mounds on the site of the WWII airfield at Llandow."

"At Llanmaes, just 3 km away, archaeological fieldwork over the last decade has produced evidence of early Bronze Age burial, in addition to middle and late Bronze Age and Iron Age settlements, and also an Iron Age midden or rubbish mound."

"Irish-type cauldrons, French-type bronze axes, large quantities of pig bones and pottery have been identified, suggesting that this area attracted peoples from across Britain, Ireland and parts of Europe who gathered here to feast, share stories and celebrate their cultural identity."

She continued: "The Eisteddfod 2012 saw one such imaginative interpretation of history, in the form of a ceremony on a site just 20 metres from one of the



ABOVE: The burial mound.

sites excavated by Sir Cyril Fox.

"This direct link with our ancient past was organised by the Department of Archaeology & Numismatics, Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales in conjunction with Cadw to respectfully tell the story of the imagined histories of those no longer able to tell their own story."

"Using archaeological records, a small-scale version of an early Bronze Age mound was reconstructed within the perimeter of the Eisteddfod."

"Burial rituals were performed with rhythmic drumming, horns, dancing and chanting accompanying the burial procession."

"In an attempt by the people of Llanmaes to reach out to the past, clay figures, made earlier in the year at a village festival, were carefully placed in the burial mound, again accompanied by much ritual."

"This humble act confirmed across the millennia the link between a place and its people, people who experience the world very differently but with an enduring respect for our cultural past."

"From 4,000 years ago to the present day this place continues to be recognised as special and as sacred. The ancient gatherings and



ABOVE: Tim Fowler, chair of Llanmaes Community Council.

feasting at Llanmaes – perhaps the first Eisteddfod – can be seen as a living tradition in 2012, a continuing celebration of our cultural identity, past and present."

Much of the material excavated by Sir Cyril Fox from Llandow is on display in the Origins Gallery at The National Museum Cardiff.

The Llanmaes finds are not on permanent display yet as museum staff continue to work on them.

Historical details for this article were supplied by Mark Lodwick, National Museum Wales.

Best of rural life on display as Vale Show is back again!

The Vale Show was back again this week – bigger and better than ever.

All the traditional country pursuits were highlighted yesterday (Wednesday), and there was keen competition in all the show classes.

Most importantly, the weather turned out fine.

Look out for more photographs of the day in next week's GEM.

RIGHT: Local Lions clubs were raising money for charity by operating a 'test your strength' machine



PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

OTHER PICTURES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THIS EVENT.

Pictures can be purchased by contacting:

e-mail ffotoimage@tiscali.co.uk

telephone 07791 228684.

Visit our studio in the Wool Barn, Verity's Court, Cowbridge.



BRIDGE RESULTS

VALE of Glamorgan Bridge Club, club night Monday August 13 (20 pairs):

1st. Mike Best & David Bird 62.73 per cent; 2nd. John Henson & Geoff Tinkler 57.64; 3rd. Amy Owen & James Mangles 57.18; 4th. Bill Turner & Steve Burgoyne 56.25; 5th. Mary Lougher & Graham Norris 55.56; 6th. Margaret Bancroft & Barbara Easterbrook 54.63.

Please note that there is no meeting this Monday, August 27 and a W.B.U simultaneous event on Monday, September 3 at 7pm prompt.

Cowbridge & District Bridge Club, club night, Llanbleddian, Tuesday, August 14 (14 pairs):

1st. Mearl Owen & Debbie Rosevear 63.10 per cent; 2nd. Teri Pollard & Sara Bartlett 62.30; 3rd. Mary Thomas & Dennis Barker 61.90; 4th. Ann Millar & Judy Springett 55.95; 5th. Marian East & Rita Williams 52.38; 6th. Hugh Williams & Myrtle Hansard 51.98.

Please note that subject to sufficient interest, it is proposed to recommence the Friday 'No Fear' bridge events on alternate Friday afternoons run by Barbara Easterbrook and Brian Swain from September 21 and we would appreciate hearing from past and new members on 01446 773960 (Barbara) or 01446 773596 (Brian).

VALE'S GOLDEN MEMORIES OF HOSTING NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD WILL LAST YEARS

IT may have been more than four decades since the National Eisteddfod visited the Vale – in 1968 it was held in Barry – but the wait proved worthwhile with the crowds enjoying wonderful weather at the end of the week.

Local photographer Andy Wicks captured people singing songs, playing instruments, relaxing in the sun, but most of all, smiling!



PHOTOGRAPHS
by **ANDY WICKS**
Telephone 07855 374478



PAGEANTRY, PERFORMANCE AND PRIZES – NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD'S DAYS IN THE SUN



GEM photographer Glyn Evans is an expert at capturing all the drama of the major events in the Vale and the National Eisteddfod was no exception.

As you can see from Glyn's images, the ceremonial moments don't just involve the 'great and the good', local children are always a key ingredient too.

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

OTHER PICTURES ARE
AVAILABLE FROM THIS EVENT.

Pictures can be purchased
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Out and About with The GEM

Bourne's Legacy tarnished by underwhelming attempt at a summer blockbuster



by GARETH JAMIESON

Follow Screen Talk on Twitter - @GEMScreenTalk

WHEN (spoiler alert!) Jason Bourne discovered his real name and dived headlong into the East river in New York, it appeared that the Bourne franchise had come to a logical conclusion.

Fast-forward five years, and with a fourth, Matt Damon-starring offering failing to pan out, the franchise moves on in The Bourne Legacy.

Jeremy Renner plays Aaron Cross, an agent who was also part of the same operation as Jason

Bourne. When Bourne's actions result in all operatives being terminated, under the orders of a mysterious man named Byer (Ed Norton), Cross is forced to go on the run where, with the aid of Dr Stephanie Snyder (Rachel Weisz), he discovers things about himself, and the organisation, that even he didn't know...

Hollywood seems to be inventing new genres and film types all the time to suit its ever-changing mood, but I'm not sure if there has ever been a parallel-quel before! The Bourne Legacy is essentially this, running seemingly alongside events of the

original trilogy with some of the characters and a whole host of new ones.

By doing this, it automatically puts it up against three films that are arguably some of the best examples of espionage on the big screen – sadly, The Bourne Legacy not only isn't a good example of espionage on the big screen, it's also a pretty average, underwhelming film in its own right.

The portents were good, the film scripted by series veteran Tony Gilroy and his brother Dan, with Tony in the director's chair.

However, the films feel like a straight pastiche of the original Bourne films, trying itself in knots trying to link into the previous films but succeeding in only muddying the waters, when a cleaner approach could so easily have been taken.

It isn't so much that the film is overshadowed by its progenitors, more that it makes itself so readily available to connect to it – the odd allusion here and there would have been fine, but using old footage to pad out the story not so much.

Gilroy's direction is strong, using Paul Greengrass' template for hand-held cameras and close-ups while delivering some decent spectacle, but he never seems to have the courage of his convictions; whereas Greengrass made the action a hard-hitting key ingredient of the story,

Mind charity masked ball

MIND in the Vale of Glamorgan is hosting a masquerade ball and dinner to raise funds and public awareness of mental health, on Saturday, September 22, at the Paget Rooms, Penarth.

"The concept behind the masked ball was to highlight the stigma and discrimination which can worsen someone's mental health problems, and delay or impede getting help and treatment due to masking their emotions and feelings," a spokesperson explained.

Live entertainment will be provided by award-winning magician, Frank E Haschka and Big Mac's Wholly Soul Band.

For further information, contact 01446 730792 in office hours.

here Gilroy makes it feel tacked on for spectacle.

It isn't that Gilroy is a poor director – Michael Clayton was directed with intensity and invention, and while not the best of films, had a stylish charm, but here the director just seems to be lost, overwhelmed by the weight of the project.

Being the man of the moment, there was a lot of weight on Jeremy Renner's shoulders, without having to replace Matt Damon, but while he is a fine actor, here his personality barely registers.

He's nothing more than a rogue agent lacking in any character or emotional depth, and Renner struggles to really engage the character in any way.

While Rachel Weisz offers a decent turn as a scientist-cum-damsel in distress, she may as well have 'exposition' stamped on her forehead as regards her importance to the story, while Ed Norton never really gets out of second gear as military man Byer, a villain with no real villainy, just a man sat behind a computer making decisions.

While it is a shame that ...Legacy doesn't come close to matching what has gone before, it is hardly surprising – Damon's steely turn coupled with Greengrass' kinetic direction was what really elevated the franchise.

In the hands of Gilroy and Renner, it's just become another spy franchise.

VERDICT – A poor continuation of an excellent trilogy, The Bourne Legacy fails to spark to life, the film feeling flat and uninspiring. Tony Gilroy's poor script and direction, coupled with weak turns, makes this an unfulfilling experience and a weak film. Poor.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKE: The Bourne Identity (2002), Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol (2011)

Ty Hafan lottery winners

The following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D736.

● **£2,000:** 396131.
● The rollover, which now stands at **£5,500**, was not won this week.
● **£10:** 812745, 477863, 427002, 590176, 174587, 778428, 123203, 300777, 532626, 550083, 208729, 225745, 587472, 794697, 900772, 803401, 442378, 482312, 260765, 328887.

● **£5:** 643505, 270651, 452756, 248678, 830257, 422068, 186927, 392198, 489989, 421576, 766493.

619802, 183449, 304189, 824993, 228165, 818835, 651996, 251133, 791534, 662834, 621867, 426044, 820632, 398203, 309453, 470486, 600370, 131920, 545597, 963794, 261830, 463703, 323450, 262250, 887127, 499913, 196644, 249051, 442178, 716942, 639701, 238864, 377270, 549975, 669698, 267016, 465896, 500373, 830950, 107516, 148161, 470431, 847482, 476741, 138455, 395136, 571129, 593883, 607142.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information, please telephone 02920 672062.

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'The Vale's favourite newspaper' announces this year's Grand Annual

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Out and About with The GEM

Craft fayre
DEXTER'S FARM at Felindre Mill, Pencoed, CF35 5HU, will be hosting a craft and country fayre in conjunction with Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research on August 26-27, from 10.30am-5pm.

More than 20 stalls offering a variety of crafts, gifts, artisan produce and preserves, live music and raffles are available, while entry to the fayre is free, with donations going to the charity.

For more details, contact Dexter's on 01656 860017.

Nantgarw fair
IN 2013, Nantgarw China Works celebrates its bi-centennial – it is almost 200 years since Nantgarw became the home to one of the finest, most important porcelain manufacturers in the UK.

Famed around the world, the majority of

the porcelain produced at Nantgarw was sent to London decorators or retailers where it was lavishly finished to adorn aristocratic tables and display cabinets.

The Friends of Nantgarw are an organisation dedicated to the maintenance and restoration of the Nantgarw China Works Museum.

An antiques fair will be held to raise funds on August 27.

Fair
The ever-popular St Mary Hill Fair will take place on August Bank Holiday Monday.

Visitors from all over south Wales (and further afield) will be on there for the start at 10am on August 27, on the common between Pencoed and Heol-y-Cyw.

The colourful fair has been the home of small animal traders for centuries, with chickens, ducks, geese and lots of ferrets changing hands.

There will also be horse and pony buyers and sellers and plenty of

market stalls, and big parks available on the common (cost: £3 per car).

The fair raises money for charity and £3,000 from last year's event was handed over to the Macmillan Nurses fund.

Fashion show
THERE will be a charity fashion show with M&Co in aid of the Sensory Garden Project, Belvedere Park, on August 31 at 7.30pm at Castleland Community Centre.

Tickets are £5, available from Jean at the community centre, or by calling: 01446 403549.

Table top sale
A TABLE top sale comprising books, toys, videos, DVDs, electrical goods, kitchen utensils, cakes, china and bric-a-brac stalls, will be held at Heol-y-Cyw welfare hall from 1pm-4pm, Saturday, September 1.

Refreshments available; proceeds in aid of Bethel Chapel restoration fund.

Wick show
THE Jubilee and Olympic celebrations may be over, but the theme is included in floral decoration and children's classes at the Wick Horticultural Show at Wick Village Hall on Saturday, September 1.

As usual, there are vegetables, fruit, flowers, potted plants, floral decoration, baking and children's classes. Doors are open at 2pm.

Vale dyspraxia support

THE next meeting of the Vale Dyspraxia Support Group will be on Monday, September 3 at 7.30pm in the Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU. All parents and carers of children and young people with dyspraxia and associated conditions are welcome to come along, with their children.

The group supports children and young people with dyspraxia (as well as related conditions such as dyslexia, ADHD, Asperger's Syndrome, OCD, Tourettes) and their parents and carers by providing advice and information, as well as an opportunity to exchange experiences.

The Vale Dyspraxia Support Group operates a 24-hour and advice line on 01446 738945 and a website, www.vds.org.uk and also runs social activities and a laptop loan programme.

Cancer Research UK fashion show
THE Porthcawl Committee for Cancer Research is hosting a fashion show on September 15 at All Saints Church Hall, Porthcawl at 7pm.

Come along and see all the latest fashions by Samantha B of Ewenny. Enjoy a glass of wine and nibbles, all for £5! For tickets, contact

Diane on 01656 784762 or Sue on 01656 773670, or pay at the door.

Singers sought
COR Bro Ogwr is waiting to welcome male choristers with open arms and a song-sheet!

No auditions; first rehearsal of the autumn at 7pm on Wednesday, September 5 at the Tabernacle Church, Derwen Road, Bridgend.

Check out website www.cor-bro-ogwr.com.

Welsh chat
A WELSH language and chat group meets the last Thursday of every month from 8.30pm at the West End Social Club, St Nicholas Road, Barry.

It's a welcoming and easy going group. Whether you are fluent, learning or just want to brush up, all are welcome.

For more information contact Anna on 07931 849258.

Textile group
CUTTING EDGE is a group that meets the second Wednesday of every month at Llanblethian Village Hall, Cowbridge, between 10am-4pm.

The group meets to share ideas and skills of all things textile: patchwork, quilting, embroidery and embellishment of fabrics.

For more information, contact Pam Stead on 01446 772965.

Come down to village show!

THIS year's Dinas Powys Village Show will be held on Saturday, September 1, at the Parish hall and gardens.

There has been a lot of interest shown in the show since it was first advertised in The GEM.

There will be more than 100 classes catering for all ages, and with a £3 cash prize for first place in each class, it is an extremely popular annual event.

The show is a fun occasion, a chance to meet up with family and friends and perhaps make new ones. Even if you do not wish to enter the

competitions, there will be plenty going on during the afternoon: music from the Dinas Powys Ecumenical Seven, two Punch and Judy shows, raffle, free face painting and balloon modelling and the excellent Women's Institute teas.

There will be a free bouncy castle, weather permitting of course, and it is hoped that the popular model railway track and other mechanical attractions will be set out in the gardens, and a professional gardener will be demonstrating and advising on planting up winter containers.

For more information, call the show chairman on 029 20513274. VH

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Saturday, 25th August - Mini Fund Raising Day commences 2 til 7pm - Bouncy Castle, Tug-of-War, Face Painting, Raffle Prizes and BBQ.

Entertainment - Top Band 'Smokin' Aces' 8.30 til late

Sunday, 26th August - Pub Quiz at 2.30pm followed by Cabaret and Karaoke, Bouncy Castle.

Bank Holiday Monday - Restaurant open 12 til 6pm, Entertainment with great solo singer 'Genine' 4 til 7pm. Take advantage of our Monday Club prices.

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Lorraine - 01446 407002

Rhoose

5.30pm & 8.30pm

Celtic Way Community Centre, Celtic Way

Helen - 01446 750738

Penarth

5.30pm & 7.30pm

Elfed Avenue Methodist Church, Elfed Road

Nia - 07793 885581

TUESDAY

Barry - 5.30pm

Holy Trinity

Presbyterian Church, Trinity Street

Joanne - 01446 404897

Barry - 4.30pm

St. David's Methodist Church Hall, Winston Road

Annamarie - 01446 736534

Llantwit Major

5.30pm & 7.30pm

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Niki - 01446 740394

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Cadoxton

Methodist Church

Church Road

Joanne - 01446 404897

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All Saints Church Hall

Victoria Square

Tracy - 07894 275853

Penarth

5.00pm & 7.00pm

St Helen's Church Hall

Wyndham Street

Niki - 01446 740394

THURSDAY

Cowbridge - 9.30am

Cowbridge

Rugby Club

Rob - 07708 941279

Dinas Powys

5.30pm & 7.30pm

The Cabin by swimming pool, Hebron Hall

Sarah - 07525852288

Barry - 10.15am

St Helen's Church Hall

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Niki - 01446 740394

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VALE REDS CELEBRATE THEIR FIRST YEAR OF FOOTBALL



THE Vale Reds disability football team held their end of year presentation at Barry Rugby Club.

Thanks were given to everyone who attended and supported the club on that day and at the pan disability football tournaments through last season.

Certificates and medals were awarded to all the players.

Trophies were presented to Ben Nicholas and Amy Gifford for winning the skills competition earlier in the year. The coaches' under-16 player award went to Ewan Heppenstall, and Matthew Prewett took the over-16s' award.

Two players' player awards were given out, the under-16s to Lewis Overton and over-16s to Anthony Bratcher.



The club's award winners.

A trophy was awarded to Nicholas Latham for 'Sports Person of the Year' for his overall attitude to football and work in the club.

The committee would like to thank everyone who helped to make this presentation a success,

with a big thank you going to Barry Rugby Club for allowing us to hold it there again this year.

The club would also like to thank everyone who has supported them this year and a big thank you to Odyssey Legal

Services, Law Costs Draftsman for the donation to the club for transport costs.

If any boys or girls wish to join the Vale Reds next season, especially over 12 years of age, contact Phil Prewett on 07732 079839. The

club train on a Wednesday night at Cadroxton Community Sports Hall from 7pm.

The club are also looking for an additional coach for next season. Anyone interested should contact Phil Prewett.

Emphatic win for Wanderers Seconds

BARRY Wanderers Second XI emphatically prevailed against Monkwood by 207 runs in their recent match.

Wanderers' captain Tom Ridgwell won the toss and elected to bat first on a dry track at the Hayes Point ground. The opening partnership of Chris Barnes and Matthew Burgin started circumspectly against some tight bowling, and when Burgin chipped to mid-on for just one, Monkwood temporarily held the upper hand.

However, that was as good as it got all day for the away team as Barnes and new batsman Ridgwell put on a brisk 49 in just over nine overs. But then, disaster struck as Barnes simply wandered out of his crease and was promptly run out by 10 yards.

Ridgwell and Renoir Defoe continued to make good progress and took the score to 117 until the captain fell for a spirited 53, clean bowled by the sprightly Smith.

Damien Davies came to the crease and, after entertaining the crowd with his full repertoire of calls – among them "waiting for now" and "see what happens" – proceeded to smash the ball to all corners, putting on 110 with the

free-flowing Defoe until the latter was out for 51.

A late flurry from Krishna Nandan – 30 off 11 balls – enabled the Wanderers to reach an impressive 263 for 5 off their allotted 45 overs, Davies remaining unbeaten on 51.

When play resumed, Monkwood were soon up against it. The new ball partnership of Krishna and Garth Wagner-Hughes steamed in with such ferocity that openers Pilley and Watkins could barely lay bat on ball, and by the ninth over both had fallen, for seven and one respectively.

Hughes then bowled Malson to pick up his second wicket, but the real star of the Wanderers' attack was youth-team prodigy Theophilus Richards, who bowled Bagley with his first ball before bamboozling a succession of batsmen with his accurate medium pace, even-

tually finishing with the impressive figures of 5-0-17-3. He was ably supported by fellow youth-team star Elwyn Toozer (4-1-9-2) who bowled his usual tight spell, despite insisting on pushing mid-off out to the boundary when the opposition were reeling at 52 for 7.

Monkwood's lower order offered no resistance as the rampant Wanderers' attack tore through the tail, the Gwent side eventually all out for a paltry 56.

At the end of such a grand sporting spectacle it was left to the cream of local musical talent to entertain at the Glenbrook Inn, a particular highlight being Freddie Burgin's rendition of Queen's back catalogue.

Benjamin Hill

TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC

THERE will be a teddy bears' picnic on Sunday, September 2 at All Saints Church, Penarth, from 3.30pm-5pm.

Teddies are invited to bring their young owners to an afternoon of fun and food in Victoria Square, Penarth, outside All Saints Church.

If the weather is wet or the ground is soft we will be inside the church. There will be lots of things to do (activities for under fives) and food and drinks are provided. Admission is free, and all are welcome.

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PHOTOGRAPHS by MIKE WILCOCK

LOCAL photographer Mike Wilcock was on hand to provide a pictorial record of the 2012 National Eisteddfod in the Vale.

For many people, the highlight is listening to the wonderful choirs, while for others it is the celebration of the Welsh language in poetry and literature.

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Who wants to build what and where in the Vale

Professor Henry Collins – 12 **Paget Place, Penarth** – proposed two storey side extension and workshop.

Mr Ian Hunt – 93 **Llanmaes Road, Llantwit Major** – proposed sun-lounge and canopy cover to frontage of property.

Bar 44 – Bar 44, 14 **Windsor Road, Penarth** – alterations to shop front, plus single storey extensions and flue to rear elevation.

Bar 44 – Bar 44, 14 **Windsor Road, Penarth** – externally lit fascia sign.

Mrs Gidget Sullivan – 18 **Bittern Way, Penarth** – amendment to approved plan ref 2012/00313/FUL (installation of Juliet balcony).

Mr and Mrs Martin Best – 6 **Ashby Road, Sully** – extension to rear to comprise two storey and single storey extension.

Sinclair Holdings – **Cogan Hotel, 51 Hewell Street, Penarth** – installation of new shop front and door to former skittle alley fronting Pill Street.

Mr Geoff Houliker – **St Helen's Infants School, Maes y Cwm Street, Barry** – addition of conservatory to an existing school to provide a staff room and classroom.

Mr and Mrs Anthony – 12 **Clos yr Wylan, Barry** – new rear extension and new loft conversion.

Swanbridge Hire & Sales Ltd – **Swanbridge Hire and Sales Ltd, Atlantic Trading Estate, Barry** – extension of existing office building to provide second floor and office accommodation.

Mr Gareth Williams – **Greystones, Factory Road, Llanblethian, Cowbridge** – revisions to planning consent No 2009/00303/FUL for reduced extension to house.

Mr William Clay – **Coed Hills Woods, St Hilary** – prior notification of agricultural or forestry development.

Mr Brown – 24 **Caynham Avenue, Penarth** – conservatory to rear elevation and porch to side elevation.

Mr Michael Lloyd – 1 **Woodside, The Elms, Peterston Super Ely** – new retaining wall with car parking area formed to front of house.

Mr M Hodgekinson – 148 **Jenner Road, Barry** – single storey extension to comprise a kitchen. External wall finish to match that of existing building.

Mr Matthew Rich – 2 **Heol Gwendoline, Barry Waterfront, Barry** – convert garage into bedroom. Remove up and over garage door, replace with brick and window to match current bricks and windows.

Mr and Mrs Gambill – 38 **Westgate, Cowbridge** – to carry out a heavy reduction on Stags Horn tree.

Mr and Mrs C and J Maunder – **Lower Barn, Southra, Dinas Powys** – construction of a detached garage.

Mr Timothy Kelly – 8 **Breaksea Close, Sully** – extension to rear ground floor kitchen.

BPS Facilities Ltd – 44 **Plymouth Road, Barry** – single storey side extension and construction of new steps and low level lift in front garden.

Mr David St Clair – 41 **Bedford Rise, Llantwit Major** – retrospective planning application for outbuilding to rear.

Mr Alistair Wilson – 5 **Edith Road, Dinas Powys** – dormer attic conversion to create bedroom and en-suite.

Mr James Prichard – land to the south of **Hen Cartref, Colwinston** – the erection of a detached dwelling and associated works.

Mr Eurig Jenkins – 18 **Orchard**

Crescent, Dinas Powys – single storey rear and side extension.

BDW Trading Ltd – site known as **West Pond, Barry Waterfront, Barry** – application for approval of Reserved Matters: residential development (up to 111 dwellings by BDW Trading Ltd) and associated infrastructure works, parking, servicing and landscaping.

Persimmon Homes Ltd – site known as **West Pond, Barry Waterfront, Barry** – application for approval of Reserved Matters: residential development (up to 136 dwellings by Persimmon Homes Ltd) and associated infrastructure works, parking, servicing and landscaping.

Mr and Mrs Christopher and Julie Dennis – **Brynsych Farm, Morfa Lane, Llantwit Major** – single storey rear extension; Kellaway Carpentry Services – **Parkstone House, 23 Park Avenue, Barry** – change of use from C3 residential to B1 offices.

Mr David Vicker – **Ty Newydd, Westgate, Cowbridge** – construct single storey extension to rear and side of existing property.

Ceri Hulm – 3 **Bridge House, 49 Plymouth Road, Penarth** – replace wooden sash windows with uPVC double glazed units.

Mr Glenn Williams – **Aderyn Cottage, Nurston** – two storey extension to comprise a dining room on the ground floor and a utility room, bedroom and recreational area on the first floor. All external roof and wall finishes to match those existing building.

Mrs Susan Tobin – **Christmas Cottage, Pen y Lan Road, St Brides Major** – two storey extension.

Ms Elizabeth Fine – 10 **Hillside Drive, Cowbridge** – prune lateral branches up to 2.5m, reshape and rebalance remaining crown on oak tree in rear garden.

Mr Myerscough – 1 **Meliden Road, Penarth** – reduce the crown of walnut tree by up to 2.0m in length.

Mr R Rees – **Coach House Farm, Michaelston Le Pit** – 1) proposed lean-to to rear of agricultural building; and 2) retention of two grain silos.

Mr John Elliot – 74 **Plymouth Road, Penarth** – demolition of existing flat roofed utility area and erection of a single storey and rear extension.

Executors of FP Esterkin Dec'd – 24 **Holton Road, Barry** – change of use of upper floors into self-contained residential flats.

Mr Frank Moloney – 10 **Park Road, Penarth** – alterations and extensions to rear elevations at 10 Park Road. New car parking created to north side of house to alleviate unsuitable current car parking situation; associated landscaping works.

Mr Frank Moloney – 10 **Park Road, Penarth** – reinstatement of former Coach House to provide garden store and children's den.

Mr and Mrs Willidge – **Stepaside, Peterston Super Ely** – reduce multi trunk ash tree, reduce ash tree and fell ash and blackthorn trees.

Mrs Conolly – 5 **Speedwell Drive, Rhose** – rear dormer.

Mr David O'Sullivan – **O'Sullivan Opticians Ltd, 31C Holton Road, Barry** – change of use from current commercial opticians practice to residential two two-bedroom apartments.

Mr Leighton Rees – 12 **Benecrofte, Rhose** – garage conversion.

Mr N Safdar – 53 **Vere Street, Cadoxton, Barry** – proposed rear single storey store room extension.

Mrs Philippa Tuckey – 3 **Cae Glas, Ewenny** – conservatory on

front of house.

Mr Ashley Hicks – **Ty Gwyn, Heol Y Cawl, Dinas Powys** – demolition of existing conservatory and construction of single storey extension.

Mr and Mrs J Townsend – 10 **Glan Y Nant, Treoes** – an extension to an existing single storey extension to make it two storey.

The extension offers further accommodation of two double bedrooms and ensuite bathroom facilities.

Ms Corinne Edwards – 8 **Charteris Close, Penarth** – ground floor extension to kitchen at rear. Relocation of garage.

Mrs Samantha Thomas – **land near New Well Farm, Wick** – timber constructed low level barn containing stables and associated storage. Change of use from agricultural to equestrian.

Messrs Alan and Peter John – **Vale of Glamorgan Inn, 53 High Street, Cowbridge** – change of use from five bedrooms with ensuite facilities to first floor, into three self-contained residential flats comprising two one-bedroom and one two-bedroom and to construct glass roof conservatory to alleyway adjoining existing covered way.

Headlands School – 2 **St Augustines Crescent, Penarth** – extension to existing dining facility.

Mr Peter Brooks – **The Market Garden, Coed Hills, St Hilary** – application for three polytunnels, reconstructed site access, plus temporary shelters.

Mrs Denise Driveman – 8 **Sully Terrace, Penarth** – proposed single storey rear extension to the existing dwelling including minor external works.

Mr Shayban Al Ibrahim – 15-17 **Holton Road, Barry** – forming new access in party wall between two adjacent units no 15 and 17 Holton Road to form a single shop unit together with changing the shopfront for both units and the main shopfront sign.

Mr Shayban Al Ibrahim – 15-17 **Holton Road, Barry** – new fascia sign.

Mr Robert Hales – 12 **Vale Court, Cowbridge** – two storey rear extension and internal improvements.

Care Inn Ltd – **Springbank Nursing Home, College Road, Barry** – installation of new lift and lift shaft.

Mr Michael Mulcahy – **Coopersale House, Piccadilly, Llanblethian, Cowbridge** – erection of single storey rear extension (orange) following demolition of existing conservatory.

Mrs Rachel Salmon – 11 **Wordsworth Avenue, Penarth** – alterations to existing roof construction on single storey rear extension.

Mr John Higson – 16 **Lon Cefn Mably, Rhose** – single storey rear extension.

Mrs Evans – **Rose Cottage, Southgate, Cowbridge** – dismantle in sections, cut main stem close to ground level Douglas Fir located in side garden.

Mr Lowry – **land south of 35 Village Farm and adjacent to Coach House, Bonvilston** – G1: 5 Ash stems - coppice to 1m above ground level. G2: Sycamore - coppice to 1m above ground level. G3: Elm - fell to ground level.

Ms Maria Hughes – **Beach Café, Colhugh Street, Llantwit Major** – minor extension to existing modern flat roofed building, maintaining existing aesthetics and levels, proposed minor extension to site to rear of existing building.

Minor demolition works to joining wall to provide access internally

LADIES FINALS DAY AT BRYNHILL GC



ABOVE: Crystal Cup finalists (left to right), caddy Di Bryant, Norma Phillips, match referee Chris Hopkins, caddy Helena Coombes and Margaret Codd.



Daniel Downton Cwtch fund presentation, Daniel's mum Claire (left) and Jodie Winter



Championship finalists (left to right), Helene Cook, match referee Jo Hopkins and Sam Pascoe.

THE Brynhill Golf Club ladies championship final, played over 36 holes, was a repeat of the 2009 final.

Last year's winner, Sam Pascoe, played Helene Cook with Jo Hopkins as match referee.

The drizzle cleared and Helene took an early lead, going four up after eight holes.

Sam countered with two pars and a birdie to get back to one down.

Helene came storming back, winning four of the next five holes, going in to lunch five up.

In 2009, Helene was in this position before, in fact going in for lunch at six up, but losing.

However, having followed earlier the morning's play, I couldn't help but notice that Helene seemed to be so much more focused this time round, undoubtedly due in no small part to her caddy Gemma.

The match resumed at 1.40pm, and unfortunately, the morning's conditions had been replaced by a heavy drizzle.

Sam wasn't going to relinquish her title without a struggle, and began by winning the 19th.

However, a determined Helene produced some good golf to win four of the next five and was able to close out the match on the 31st hole, becoming Brynhill's champion for the third time.

The **Diack final** (for handicaps 20-29) was played between Claire Herbert and Hilary West.

The match was expected to be a close encounter – Claire the longer driver, but Hilary is known for a solid short game.

Claire took control winning four consecutive holes to go four up. Hilary valiantly fought back, but Claire was to prove too strong on this occasion, sinking the winning putt on the 14th.

In heavy drizzle, the **Crystal Cup** final (handicaps 30-36) was played between Margaret Codd and Norma Phillips. The match was refereed by Chris Hopkins.

Margaret was coming into the match in good form, having recently won two club competitions, but Norma was to settle first, winning the first hole. It wasn't until the fourth hole, however, that Margaret was able to get ahead but then Norma found herself on the 11th tee, five down.

Norma came back to win the 11th, but a fine drive on the narrow 12th and a good second shot to the green put Margaret back to five up.

They halved the 13th but Margaret closed out the match on the 14th.



ABOVE: Diack finalists (left to right), Hilary West, match referee Alma Shepherd, and Claire Herbert

Well done to both ladies playing some good golf in pretty miserable conditions!

In the evening, members and guests returned to the clubhouse for a delicious two-course dinner.

Prior to the golf presentations, there was a poignant moment when the lady captain reminded us that on July 28, more than 90 members and guests played in the Colin Jones Memorial Day competition, with the money raised going to the Daniel Cwtch fund.

A cheque for £867 was handed over by Jodie Winter to Daniel's mum Claire, who gave her heartfelt thanks to everyone for their continuing support.

Floral arrangements were presented to the golf winners and runners-up, and there followed some extremely humorous speeches.

All the finalists thanked Iain Grant and his grounds staff for the fine condition of the course and acknowledged the help and support of their caddies – and praised the supporters who had stayed out on the course despite the awful weather.

JP

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Dunford delights Dinas Powys with hat-trick in a seven-goal thriller

ON a fine day, Dinas Powys started with a high tempo and took a firm grip on the game whilst player manager Mark Dunford was in the mood to top up more than just his tan by adding to his goal tally.

Dinas Powys dealt with the Caldicot long ball and countered with more purpose to their attack than the previous two games.

With the upper hand it was vital Dinas made the most of the possession and in the 20th minute it paid off when a Steve Provis long-range pass caught out the Caldicot defence and Steff Davies controlled the ball superbly with his head,

taking it past the outcoming goalkeeper and showing composure to slot the ball into the net from 12 yards.

Continuing the good spell, it wasn't long before Dinas added a second. Once again, quick thinking Steve Provis took a quick free kick after spotting a good run from Dunford, playing him through. With an instinctive finish past the outcoming goalkeeper he made it 2-0.

The game was then turned on it's head two minutes before half-time when a tangle in the Dinas box resulted in Steff Davies getting sent off for his second yellow card and Caldicot being awarded a penalty, which they scored to set up a thrilling second half.

It started with a very

WELSH LEAGUE DIVISION TWO DINAS POWYS 4 CALDICOT TOWN 3

well-structured 10-man Dinas Powys holding off a raised tempo Caldicot performance, eager to get back on terms.

But within five minutes this went against them as a quickly-taken free-kick deep within their own half was pressed and won back by Richard Yarr. His superb early pass put through another well-timed run from Dunford, who again took his chance early with a cool finish to give Dinas much-needed breathing space.

Caldicot responded with continued pressure onto the Dinas back four who held strong. In the 61st minute, Liam Jeremy was provided the chance to counter attack down the left flank and, placing a perfect early low ball across the back-tracking Caldicot defence and into the path of Robbie Fowler.

He was brought down

ter of the first half and could have gone ahead after 10 minutes.

Rangers keeper Ashley Hart raced out of his area to stop the attack, handling the ball in the process, but the referee only handed him a booking when on another day he would have been sent off for stopping a clear threat on goal.

Instead, Dinas had to wait until the 41st minute before Steffan Davies beat the Rangers defence to head home a Richard Yarr cross.

Rangers started the second half with more purpose and took only five minutes to equalise when Richard Greaves was played through the Dinas defence, firing home from 12 yards.

Steffan Davies and Liam Jeremy both had chances for the winner but Rangers' better second half display meant that the draw was probably the right result.

MW

East end is back open for business!



BARRY East end re-opened this Monday (August 20) for its new season of boxing.

After a successful end to last season, with one of the young lads, Rhys Geishemier, making it through to Welsh selection and going to fight in Scotland in the Great British finals and coming home with a silver medal, everyone is eager to go.

The club will be offering mixed sessions with juniors Mondays and Wednesdays from 5pm-6pm; and seniors Monday-Wednesday from 6pm (fighters only).

New to the East end will be the boxer-fitness classes available to everyone, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6.30pm-7.30pm, only £3 per session or £5 for both.

ML

If anyone is interested in taking up boxing, junior or senior level, please feel free to come along – we are based in the Windsor Hotel on Holton Road in Barry.

You may even get the chance to train alongside a regular visitor to our gym, the current British and Commonwealth featherweight champion Lee Selby, who will also be holding a public sparring session shortly with another British champion as he gets ready for his upcoming defence against Martin Lindsay in Belfast on September 22.

Also, everyone in the gym is wishing the co-founder Henry Brown all the best in his recovery.

Barry primary school given gold star for PE program



Cadoxton Primary School has received a top award for its PE program from Sport Wales.

CADOXTON PRIMARY SCHOOL has finished top of the class after their work in PE received a glowing report.

Sport Wales and the Association for Physical Education (AfPE) are championing schools which recognise the importance of PE.

All schools can apply for ActiveMarc Cymru and, this year, 29 schools from across Wales have sailed through.

ActiveMarc Cymru endorses schools that are committed to developing high quality physical education and school sport and for promoting the benefits of physical activity.

Headteacher, Janet Hayward, said: "We are thrilled to receive The ActiveMarc award as

we are so committed to providing our children with the best opportunities to be physically active in school as it impacts so positively on their health and wellbeing.

"We are very lucky in Cadoxton to have our sports hall and the excellent facilities at Victoria Park.

"A lot of time has also been spent on staff training to improve the quality of PE lessons and this really shines through.

"We had a fantastic 'Olympic Warmup Week' in June with opening and closing ceremonies, sports days and a visit from an Olympic torchbearer.

"It was the icing on the cake to receive this award before the end of term."

If other schools wish to apply, visit: www.sportwales.org.uk.

Cadoxton lose out to high-flying Bargoed

CADOXTON V BARGOED - ML3
Another outstanding performance from Don Kuhnell produced the only winning rink for Cadoxton when they visited Bargoed, to be greeted by a young talented side, running for promotion.

His front players, Glen Solomon and David Evans, gave good support, with plenty of well-placed bowls, with Len Davies as third also giving some assistance.

However, with the back players from the opposition playing so well, there was almost always a recovery shot needed, which Don did to perfection regularly.

Graham Brown got off to a bad start on his rink after conceding a '4' and '3' on the opening ends. This left him playing 'catch up' throughout the

game, which was not managed against the gifted opposition.

Kelvin Chedzoy's rink started slowly, but a '2' and '6' brought them back into the game at 12-14 on the 11th end.

Nevertheless, the good play from their talented rivals for the remaining ends allowed them just one more shot.

Howard Craven's four also had a bad start, by going eight shots behind after three ends. By the eighth this was reduced to just one. In spite of this recovery the gap was reopened to nine shots on the 16th end. This was reduced once more with two '3's, but the home side held out.

Scores: D Fanning, S Clarke, M Mathews, H Craven 16-22; G Solomon, D Evans, L Davies, D Kuhnell 21-14; G Powell, L Adams

W Vaughan, G Brown 12-25; D Tuck, H Hellyar, D Brook, K Chedzoy 13-32.

Final score: 62-93. CADOXTON 'A' V MILLWOOD - ML6

Cadoxton's 'A' side completed their fixtures for the season with a match against Millwood 'A'.

The team was short of players and were well beaten by the visitors.

Scores (skips only): J Crout 28-13 J Butler; J Sugden 7-30 A Hardwick; J Stewart 18-19 M Williams; A Turner 16-29 R Jeffries.

Final score: 69-91.

DK

Anyone for hockey?

Have you been inspired by the Team GB women's hockey team winning a bronze medal?

Barry Ladies Hockey Club has been running for more than 50 years and has fully qualified coaches able to train players of all ages and abilities.

The senior team plays in the South Wales Premier II league, the second highest in the area. There is also a thriving youth section regularly competing in youth competitions.

Training starts on Wednesday, September 5 at Colcot Sport Centre in Barry.

Times: 6.15pm-7.15pm is training for five-15-year-olds, and the senior players train from 7.15pm-8.15pm.

For details, contact Dawn Dobbs on 01446 749501 (dawn.dobbs@gmail.com) or Jo Wright on 01446 740964 (jojolou@hotmail.com). JH

Keen competition on golf trip to Wiltshire

ON Monday, August 6, 16 ladies from Cottrell Park Golf Club visited the Wiltshire Golf and Country Club for an overnight stay.

Following bacon rolls on arrival and a putting competition, a four-ball better ball competition was played.

The winners were Patsie Smith and Angela Padfield with 37 points, and runners up were Vicki Long and Louise Case with 36 points.

The putting competition was shared by Helen Poole and Toots Plant with 23 putts. The course was rather soggy after so much rain and the greens were tricky.

Except for a few heavy showers the first day, the weather was kind and the rain held off until leaving on the second day.

An individual medal was played for the 'Lady Cottrell' trophy and also a team stableford competition.

Helen Poole had an excellent day and, as well as winning the putting, she took the Lady Cottrell with 31 points.

She also picked up the prizes for the longest drive (0-25 handicap) and nearest the pin.

Second was Vicki Long with 29 points and third Sian Lovell, also with 29. Judy James, the ladies' captain, won the longest drive for 26-36 handicap.

The team prize was won by Helen Poole, Louise Case and Geraldine Twamley with 69 points.

The trip was enjoyed by all and the ladies captain was thanked for organising it.

ing in 10 minutes of play which saw some good drives.

However, good ball was squandered and no further points came their way.

Pentyrch then came back with a converted try that boosted their morale and rhythm, leaving Barry always on the catch up and having to make double the tackle count.

At stoppages, Pentyrch breathed hard but Barry were blowing. The home side, with a bench equal to the playing 15, made regular substitutions, maintaining pace and tempo.

With 20 seconds to go before half-time

Mephram kicked for touch from behind a defensive scrum only for the ball to be gathered by the home side. Two quick passes resulted in a try under the posts, a morale sapping incident for the travellers they could have done without.

Barry tried hard throughout the second half and all players were used – a big thanks to the intake of under-16s of Miles, Legge, Scott, Davies, Burnett, O'Sullivan, Adams and Barnett; coach Rhydian Scott should be very proud.

Pentyrch scored twice more in the second half and a third try was bravely blocked by a textbook defensive tackle from full back Blake Wall.

Brad White gained a consolation when he chased an attacking kick forward. He gathered, broke a tackle and went under the posts in the dying minutes for a converted try. The final score was 29-12.

The team next face a big home game against Pontypridd on Saturday, August 25.

MM

CALLING CLUB OFFICIALS!
Send us your match reports - gemeditorial @tindlenews.co.uk

Enjoying the open road in the new Lexus

WHAT felt like three months of continuous rain stopped as I stepped inside the striking Mesa red Lexus IS 250C SE-L Premier.

That was just as well, because I'm a firm believer that you can't drive a cabriolet with the roof up, although if the heavens open it can actually shut in just 21 seconds (the same to retract); the fastest three-part roof on the market, Lexus claims.

The roof only goes back up if there's enough room for the boot lid to move back far enough so if, for instance, you park too close to a wall, it won't work, as I found out!

Its purposeful, angular exterior reminds me a little of an American car. It is certainly distinctive.

The luxury division of Toyota is a byword for quality and it is no surprise to find a particularly comfortable interior with ivory leather upholstery. The eight-way electrically adjusted and operated front seats are also heated and cooled.

Parkers, the car experts, say: "With the popularity of upmarket four-seat convertibles like the Audi A5 and BMW 3-Series convertible, it's no surprise that Lexus has its own version - the IS 250C.

"It's based on the standard IS saloon but the majority of the exterior is unique to the convertible - including the excellent aluminium folding roof.

"Like all Lexus cars, the IS 250C is superbly

By Tim Saunders

built and refined, but it seems this has come at the expense of driving enjoyment and it lacks that 'fun' factor you'd expect to find in any convertible.

"On the plus side, all versions come incredibly generously equipped and the metal roof means it can be as secure and as comfortable as a coupe."

I take issue with the Parkers' comment about driving enjoyment, as I find it provides an engaging experience. Sure it's not the fastest from 0 to 60mph but it is a happy motorway cruiser that doesn't buffet at high speeds, like some, and it is happy to be thrown round bends and corners, handling the challenge well, in my opinion, feeling rigid and competent contrary to earlier reports of body roll and a lack of grip.

A firm ride helps the sporty feel and the 2.5-litre engine, coupled to the six-speed auto provides a decent driving experience. The suspension is firm and overall the Lexus is a supremely refined vehicle.

There aren't many cars on the market with a foot operated parking brake but as you can see by watching the video at testdrives.biz, this has one, located to the left of the foot pedals.

The cruise control operates at speeds of 29mph and above and automatically keeps the car at a safe



distance behind the vehicle in front. However, there is not the option to adjust the distance that can be found on other vehicles from Volvo or Rolls Royce, for instance.

As is the case with all such systems it can be guilty of accelerating and braking too forcefully at times with no extra power for overtaking unless the driver overrides the controls. This could be improved. Although overall, when there's not too much traffic about, it makes motorway cruising a breeze - quite literally with the roof down. Driving with that hood lowered is such a great way of waking up in the mornings! Using sport mode on the auto box is a disappointment as it doesn't seem to make any difference in power. But for those seeking more enjoyable driving selecting the manual

gear shifts either side of the steering wheel gives more control.

As is the case with many a cabriolet, the boot is barely large enough for a briefcase and laptop. When locked the wing mirrors automatically fold up, to protect them from any parking damage.

Many, including those brash BBC Top Gear presenters, criticise the IS 250C, slating its price and flawed handling. They believe that the Lexus is no match for a similarly priced fabric roofed Porsche Boxster. Well it depends what you want from a cabriolet doesn't it?

If you want brute force then of course the convertible Porsche will win hands down. But if suave sophistication is more your thing, then I'm sorry but the much more gentlemanly metal-topped Lexus must win.

Then of course there is the fact that Lexus consistently comes top of the What Car? reliability survey.

OTR £46,510
Lexus IS 250C SE-L Premier MY11

0-60mph: 9 secs

Top speed: 130mph

Engine: 2.5-litre

Power: 205bhp

Combined economy: 30.7mpg

Watch the video at www.testdrives.biz

Busy spell for the Rising Sun Club



THE weather may not have been too good but the Rising Sun Kyokushin Karate Club has been busy throughout the last few months.

At the beginning of June four senior members of the club, Lewis Giles, Des Brown, Dave Jenkins and Tom Dalton, entered into the British Regional Full Contact Championships.

The team, coached by Spencer Bennett, had to travel to Reading to compete. Lewis Giles competed in the light-weight category which was by far the largest group of the day.

Lewis dominated through his fights but was unlucky enough to sustain an injury that prevented his fighting in the final so he was

awarded silver. Tom Dalton, who has only been with the club 18 months, worked hard in his first middleweight fight against the current champion.

Tom fought hard in his match and the judges failed to make a clear decision on a winner; he was just pipped to the post by his rival during an extension to the fight.

Dave Jenkins, one of the club's veteran fighters and a contender for the middleweight title was unfortunately put out of the tournament due to a kick to the head after dominating for the first half of his bout.

Des Brown completed the team and after some convincing wins in the first rounds, he made it through to the semi-finals to take bronze for his club.

The focus in July was

on the junior members of the club who completed a 1000 punch sponsored event for charity.

They all worked extremely hard and even though many of them found the task a little gruelling they all completed it. They raised over £200 which will be going to Cliv-Sargent, a children's cancer charity.

The club also had a beach training session at Barry Island. This involved the students doing warm ups, kicks, punches and kata on the sand. After their hard morning work on the beach they enjoyed a game of football, which of course Sempai Spencer's team won!

The club is next looking forward to a barbecue at Porthkerry in a couple of weeks before the hard work of training for the next competition begins in earnest.

That will be the British Open Championships in October where a large contingent from the club

will be participating. They are Sempai Lee Bennett, Sempai Spencer Bennett, Des Brown, Paul Stephens, Dan Jenkins, Lewis Giles, Tom Dalton, Dave Jenkins and Lawrence Mitchell. Everyone at the club wishes them great success and a huge

thankyou to Sensei and Sempai for all their hard work and dedication to the club.

For anyone interested in joining the club, or for more information on class times and beginners course please contact Lee Bennett on 07861699476. L.H

Charity wins at Dinas Tennis Club



DESPITE being a support Dinas Powys tennis club's annual charity tournament.

The tournament's main sponsor was Dunlop Slazenger and we are very grateful to them for their generous prizes including a new tennis racket. Thanks also to all the other individual sponsors, as over £500 was raised for Marie Curie.

The winner of the tournament was Paul Arcos, seen here being presented with his prize by the chair of the club, Marion Curtis.

NW

DONATE A KIT TO SIERRA LEONE



ABOVE:

Coach Peter Griffiths said: "Providing these football kits will bring African communities together and help raise self esteem and confidence."

PG10 Coaching, Forging Links and former Everton FC and Wales most capped international footballer Neville Southall have joined forces to support a campaign to provide 96 schools in Sierra Leone with junior football kits.

The aim is to increase participation in football and provide opportunities to come together through sport.

The project will also enable young people and adults the opportunity to gain accredited qualifications in sport and first aid.

Peter Griffiths of PG10 Coaching and Mo Jannah of Forging Links recently worked in Sierra Leone providing educational and sporting opportunities to some of the most deprived children in

the world.

Peter commented: "From coaching in a number of countries, it is clear football is one language, by providing these football kits will bring African communities together and help raise self esteem and confidence. We encourage local junior

teams and clubs from Wales to donate their old kits to the campaign to help make a huge difference to children suffering from awful child poverty."

To donate a football kit please email info@pg10coaching.co.uk or phone 07955270870

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- 58 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.3 CDTi 3-dr SX in black, 39,000 miles, £20 road tax + diesel economy £6,995
- 59 PEUGEOT 207 1.4 Verve 3-dr. In black, 19,000 miles, 1 owner, great looking car £6,795
- 08 VAUXHALL Vectra 1.9 CDTi 150 Elite. In met blue with leather trim, 67,000 mile diesel £5,995
- 55 TOYOTA Corolla CLR 2.0 Diesel 5-dr. In platinum metallic, 62,000 miles £5,995
- 58 FORD Fiesta 1.2 Zetec Climate 3-dr. In met apple green, 32,000 miles, a/c, alloys £5,695
- 06 VW Golf+ 1.9 TDi SE. In Black, 82,000 miles, economical diesel at £5,695
- 58 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 Active Auto 3-dr in black, 48,000 miles with a/c, etc £5,495
- 56 FORD Fiesta 1.4 TDCi Zetec Climate 5-dr in silver, 49,000 miles. £30 road tax £4,995
- 55 TOYOTA Corolla 1.6 T-Spirit 5-dr. In silver, 51,000 miles local car in superb condition £4,995
- 56 TOYOTA Corolla T3 1.4 5-dr. In ice blue, 50,000 miles, a/c, cd, etc £4,995
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- 07 FORD Fiesta 1.2 Style Climate 3-dr. In met purple, 37,000 mile local car with a/c £4,695
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- 07 RENAULT Megane 1.6 Dynamique Automatic 5-dr. In met gold, 23,234 miles from new £4,295
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- 56 DIAHATSU Sirion 1.3 SX 5-dr. In silver, 18,576 miles from new £3,995
- 06 FORD Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Climate 5-dr. In met silver, alloys, air con etc £3,995
- 06 CITROEN C4 1.6 VTR+ Coupe. In black, 51,000 mile stylish hatch £3,995
- 05 VAUXHALL Astra 1.8 Design Automatic. In met grey, 46,000 miles, high specification £3,995
- 54 VOLVO S40 2.0 Diesel 'S'. In sand metallic, high spec, economical example at £3,995
- 58 DIAHATSU Sirion 1.0S+ 5-dr. In silver, low insurance + £30 road tax, with sun roof £3,795
- 07 RENAULT Clio 1.4 Dynamique (new shape) 3-dr. In black, 75,000 miles, 2 owners £3,495
- 55 RENAULT Megane 1.6 Oasis 5-dr in black, 62,000 miles with pan-roof, key less go £3,495
- 55 FORD Focus 1.6 LX Auto 5-dr. In blue, fantastic value new shape Focus at only £3,495
- 54 FORD Focus 1.8 Ghia 5-dr. In crystal silver, 58,000 miles, 2 owners, a/c, alloys etc £3,295
- 03 TOYOTA Yaris 1.0 T3 3-dr. In jade metallic, 58,000 miles, low insurance £3,295
- 03 VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.9 diesel 3-dr. In yellow, 88,000 miles £3,295
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- 03 SKODA Fabio 1.4 Elegance 5-dr. In met blue, FSH, cd etc £2,695
- 52 SMART City Pulse Auto. In red/black, 64,000 miles with pan-roof, air con, £30 road tax £2,495
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GEM sport

A NOSTALGIC MEETING FOR FARMERS' GOLF MEMBERS

MEMBERS and guests of The Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society travelled to Builth Wells Golf Club last Thursday to compete for the Shrieval Cup, and also the many prizes supplied by the family of the late Mr Islwyn Rees.

Special guests invited to attend included several of Islwyn's former playing partners, Peter Chatterton, Anthony Gill and Huw Thomas.

The society were also delighted to welcome 17-year-old Elliott Rees, a grandson of Islwyn's who has recently taken up golf and who lives with his parents Paul and Rosemarie at the family Tanylan Farm, St Mary Hill.

Playing in his first competition, Elliott finished in a very respectable fourth position in the guest section and is someone to look out for in the future.

The wet weather that has accompanied society members at most of their recent meetings once again resulted in umbrellas being raised for most of the round, which on this occasion was played in a medal format rather than stableford.

Several failed to come to terms with the conditions with a few members, including captain Lyn Thomas, secretary Tony McCarthy, Clive Thomas and also Ray Simkiss, incurring the dreaded double figure score of '10' on their cards.

Some sympathy, however, for Ray Simkiss, as a late change in playing partners resulted in Ray



ABOVE: Ray Thomas looks for a calculator for Brian Jones to work out the scores.

being drawn to play with out-of-form Bryan Owen and Glyn Watts-Jones.

However, Coun Raymond Thomas, a nephew of the late Mr Islwyn Rees, enjoying a rare day off from his busy council duties, soon came to terms with the conditions to finish with a net 69 to secure first place ahead of president Geraint Davies -

who finished with a net 71.

In third place, also with a net 71, was Islwyn's son Mark, while a rejuvenated Keith Walker, now playing out of Cottrell Park Golf Club, finished fourth with a net 74.

A net 65 by David Taylor proved the best round of the day to secure first place in the guest section.

Runner-up was James Hayes, who finished with a net 74, and Anthony Gill, a close friend of both Mr and Mrs Islwyn Rees, finished fourth with a net 80.

The Bear Hotel, Cowbridge-sponsored longest drive prize was won by Geraint Davies, who also collected one of the Llanerch Vineyard & Restaurant-sponsored nearest the pin prizes.

Other winners for nearest the pin on the par three holes included Tosh Taylor, Anthony Gill, Jeff Hart, and Glyn Watts-Jones.

Aubrey Bowen continues to be successful in the Premier Turf-sponsored lost ball competition, this time guessing that 44 balls would remain in the county of Powys, with the majority being deposited in the fast flowing River Chwys, which meanders around part of this well-maintained parkland course.

This resulted in £140 being raised for Prostrate Cancer UK and yet another bottle of whiskey finding its way to Penmark.

The society's next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 30, at Wenvoe Castle Golf Club, when members will be competing for the Anthony Brown Cup, kindly sponsored by Llantwit Major estate Agents, Anthony Brown & Co Ltd.

JD



ABOVE: The winners with their trophies after a hard-fought day on the course.

Sevens tournament in memory of Colin Hillman

A SEVENS tournament will take place on Sunday, August 26 in memory of former Wales' sevens coach Colin Hillman.

The former Bridgend, Swansea and South Wales Police hooker coached the Welsh national sevens team

and was still a WRU Technical Advisor to the Wales sevens team.

The inaugural Colin Hillman Invitational Sevens kicks off at 11am at the South Wales Police Rugby Ground in Waterton Cross, Bridgend, with 10 teams competing.

As well as playing for a number of Welsh clubs, Hillman also played for the

Barbarians and Wales sevens as his name became heavily associated with sevens both in a playing, coaching and managing role.

The tournament, a brainchild of Colin's son Matthew and Keith Miles, takes place for the first time with local sides and invitational teams competing to win the trophy.

Teams taking part include Bridgend Sports RFC, two Bridgend Athletic teams, Glaze Charity 7, Kenfig Hill RFC, Maesteg RFC,

Nantymoel RFC, South Wales Police Hillman 7, Dinas Powys RFC and Samuray Sharks.

All proceeds raised from the day will go to the Y Bwthyn Newydd Macmillan Specialist Care Unit at the Princes of Wales Hospital, Bridgend.

Before the semi-finals and final there will be an exhibition of tag rugby by junior

teams organised by WRU development staff, while Bridgend Athletic's Simon Mustoe has agreed to have his legs waxed for the charity regardless of how his team fares in the tournament.

Paul John, the current head coach of Wales sevens, will present the trophies, while WRU head of rugby Joe Lydon will also attend. He said: "I'm really looking forward to attending the Colin Hillman Invitational Sevens."

"The concept is a fitting tribute to Colin who was an outstanding, well respected coach and a real friend and supporter of sevens rugby worldwide."

The rugby competition takes place alongside a hog roast and barbecue with an outside licensed bar. There will also be children's rides, stalls and a raffle on the day.

Cowbridge youngsters get a good case of 'the Blues'

FOLLOWING an intensive selection process involving six weeks of training and culminating in a final trial, an unprecedented 12 players from the Cowbridge under-16s squad have been chosen to represent the Cardiff Blues South.

In addition, a further six boys have been requested to join the Blues Development side. For one club to supply 40 per cent of the Blues squad is a remarkable achievement, and testament to the hard work and dedication the boys have put in since coming together at under-8s.

Cardiff Blues South: Tom Higgins, Joel Ringer, Aaron Bowman, Dan Holder, Harry Dowell Bennett, Jon Hunt, Joe Gaughan, Harry Goodfellow, Alex Guard, Nick Griffiths, Josh Rodgers, Josh Thomas.

Blues Development: Dan Evans, Matt Howells, Freddie Dewey, Will Brinkley, Matt Locke, Adam Dix.



Huw Thomas, with Elliot and Mark Rees.

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Mixed month for bowlers

RHOOSE Men's Team experienced mixed fortunes during the month of July.

In their Munro Cup match against Llantwit Major, Darren Parson's rink came close to achieving a draw, only losing by two shots. However, Llantwit won by 87 shots to 47.

On July 11, Rhooose entertained Barry Central in another Munro Cup match. Rhooose won on three rinks, achieving an overall 47-shot victory.

The next home match was a CDML match against Ely, and, again winning on three rinks, Rhooose beat Ely by 80 shots.

Then came an away game against Millwood

BC. Rhooose lost on all rinks with Millwood winning by 75 shots to 45.

This was followed by a visit to Ynyscynon, where the team were soundly beaten by 85 shots.

Rhooose returned to winning form in their next Munro Cup match against Barry Plastics, winning on all rinks and by 51 shots.

In the last home league game, Rhooose's opponents were Llantrisant.

Rhooose secured another convincing victory, winning on all four rinks and by a total of 61 shots.

The team is now left with two re-arranged CDML matches to complete in the next few weeks.

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